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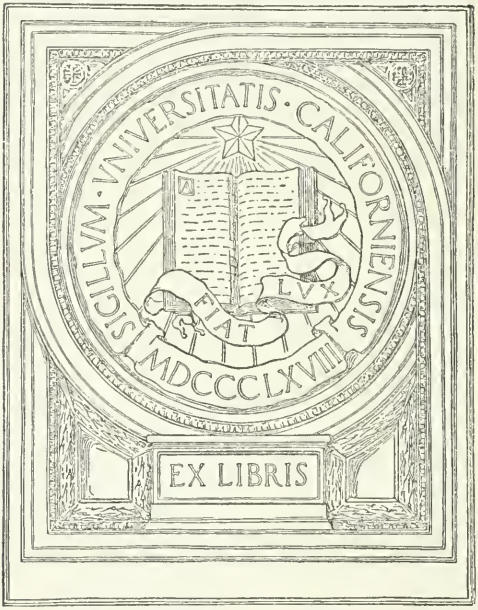

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PLAVTI
PRIMVMVS

T MACCI PLAVTI

TRINVMMVS

RECENSVIT

FRIDERICVS RITSCHELIVS

EDITIO TERTIA A FRIDERICO SCHOELL RECOGNITA

SYRACVSIS
IN NOV. EBOR.
EX TYPIS D. MASON ET SOC.
CIↃIↃCCCXCV

THE

Trinummus of Plautus

TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH

BY

H. O. SIBLEY

(Verse: The Argument, Prologue and the Three Lyric Monologues)

AND

FRANK SMALLEY

(Prose)

SYRACUSE
NEW YORK
PRESS OF D. MASON & CO.
1895

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
SUOS CULTORES SCIENTIA CORONAT
FOUNDED A.D. 1870

To

Chancellor James Roscoe Day, S. T. D.,

To whose encouragement the reproduction of the Triummus by Syracuse University students is due, and whose high ideal of scholarship and broad policy are an incentive to the cultivation of liberal studies.

GRAECA · THENSAVRVS · PHILEMONIS

ACTA · CONIECTVRA · PRIMO · ROMAE · ANNO
ANTE · CHRISTVM · CLXXXVIII · LVDIS · MEGALENSIBVS
QVI · IN · MATRIS · MAGNAE · HONOREM · PRIDIE · NONAS
APRILES · ET · QVINQVE · DIES · INSEQVENTES · QVOT
ANNIS · FIEBANT

HANC · FABVLAM · PLAVTI · IN · PRIMIS · PROBAM
EGIT · GREX · E · SVMMA · CLASSE · DISCIP · VNIVERSITATIS
SYRACVSANAE · CVRATIONE · PROF · LING · LAT · XVII
KAL · IVN · CIↃIↃCCCXCV · SYRACVSIS · IN · NOV · EBOR

PRAEBVERE . OPERAM · PRAESES · DAV · PROPRAESES
FRENCH · DECANVS · VERNON · PROF · EMENS · INSTR
REDINGTON · ALIIQVE

GRATIAS · AGIT · CVRATOR · CONLEGIO · ARTIVM
ELEGANTIVM · PRO · AVXILIO · MODOS · FECIT
PROF · FREY · PARIETES · SCAENICOS · PROF
DI · FELICE · DESIGNAVIT · IDEM · INVOLVCRVM · HVIVS · LIBELLI
ORNAVIT

THE · GREEK · ORIGINAL · WAS · THE · THENSAURUS
OF · PHILEMON

THE · TRINUMMUS · IS · SUPPOSED · TO · HAVE · BEEN · ACTED · FOR
THE · FIRST · TIME · IN · ROME · IN · THE · YEAR · 188 · B · C · AT
THE · MEGALENSIAN · FESTIVAL · WHICH · WAS · ANNUALLY
CELEBRATED · IN · HONOR · OF · THE · MOTHER · OF · THE · GODS
(CYBELE) · FOR · SIX · DAYS , BEGINNING · ON · THE · FOURTH · OF · APRIL

SOME · MEMBERS* · OF · THE · SENIOR · CLASS · OF · THE · SYRACUSE
UNIVERSITY · UNDER · THE · DIRECTION · OF · THE · LATIN · DEPARTMENT
BROUGHT · OUT · THIS · HIGHLY · MORAL · PLAY · OF · PLAUTUS · AT
SYRACUSE · N · Y · MAY 16 · 1895

CHANCELLOR · DAY · VICECHAN · FRENCH · DEAN · VERNON · PROF
EMENS · INSTR · REDINGTON · AND · OTHERS · RENDERED
ASSISTANCE.

THE · MANAGEMENT · IS · UNDER · OBLIGATION · TO · THE · FINE · ARTS
COLLEGE · FOR · AID · PROF · FREY · WROTE · THE · MUSIC · PROF
DI · FELICE · MADE · THE · DESIGN · FOR · THE · SCENE · AND · FOR
THE · COVER · OF · THIS · LIBRETTO

*THE . FOLLOWING · IS · THE · CAST · OF · CHARACTERS

Misses Klock and Stone	*The Prologue*
Mr. H. B. Tilbury .	*Megaronides*
Mr. H. H. Reynolds .	*Callicles*
Mr. C. S. Gager .	*Lysiteles*
Mr. F. P. Schenck .	*Philto*
Mr. A. D. Berry .	*Lesbonicus*
Mr. J. W. Stevens .	*Stasimus*
Mr. J. F. Reed . .	*Charmides*
Mr. W. W. Nichols .	*Sycophanta*
Mr. G. H. Baskerville .	*Tibicen*

ARGVMENTVM

Thensaúrum clam apstrusum ábiens peregre Chármides
Remque ómnem amico Cállicli mandát suo.
Istóc apsente mále rem perdit fílius.
Nam et aédis uendit: has mercatur Cállicles.
Virgo índotata sóror istius póscitur.
Minus quó cum inuidia eí det dotem Cállicles,
Mandát qui dicat aúrum ferre se á patre.
Vt uénit ad aedis, húnc deludit Chármides
Senéx, ut rediit: quóius nubunt líberi.

THE ARGUMENT.

When on the point of travelling abroad,
Old Charmides consigns a hidden treasure,
And all his wealth, to Callicles, his friend.
While he is absent, foolishly his son
Squanders the property, and even sells
The homestead. This is bought by Callicles.
The young man's maiden sister, though undowered,
Is asked in marriage. Callicles, that he
May give with less invidious remark
A dowry to her, hires a man to say
He brings gold from her father. As the man
Comes to the house, the old man Charmides,
Who has returned, meets and makes sport of him.
The old man's children marry happily.

PERSONAE

LVXVRIA cum INOPIA PROLOGVS
MEGARONIDES SENEX
CALLICLES SENEX
LYSITELES ADVLESCENS
PHILTO SENEX
LESBONICVS ADVLESCENS
STASIMVS SERVOS
CHARMIDES SENEX
SYCOPHANTA
CANTOR

THE CHARACTERS.

PROLOGUE, { LUXURY. / POVERTY, *the daughter of Luxury.*

MEGARONIDES, *an old man.*

CALLICLES, *an old man.*

LYSITELES, *a young man, son of Philto.*

PHILTO, *an old man.*

LESBONICUS, *a young man, son of Charmides.*

STASIMUS, *a slave.*

CHARMIDES, *an old man.*

SYCOPHANTA, *a trickster.*

A CANTOR.

PROLOGVS

LVXVRIA. INOPIA

LVXVRIA

Sequere hác me, gnata, ut múnus fungarís tuom.

INOPIA

Sequór: sed finem fóre quem dicam néscio.

LVXVRIA

Adést: em illaec sunt aédes: i intro núnciam.
Nunc né quis erret uóstrum, paucis ín uiam
Dedúcam, si quidem óperam dare promíttitis.
(Nunc ígitur primum quaé ego sim, et quae illaéc siet
Huc quae ábiit intro, dícam si animum aduórtitis.)
Primúm mihi Plautus nómen Luxuriae índidit:
Tum illánc mihi esse gnátam uoluit Ínopiam.
Sed éa quid huc intro ierit inpulsú meo,
Accípite et date uocíuas auris dum éloquor.
Aduléscens quidamst, quí in hisce habitat aédibus:
Is rém paternam me ádiutrice pérdidit.
Quoniam eí, qui me aleret, níl uideo esse rélicui,
Dedi eí meam gnatam, quícum una aetatem éxigat.
Sed de árgumento ne éxspectetis fábulae:
Senés, qui huc uenient, í rem uobis áperient.
(Huic graéce nomen ést Thensauro fábulae:
Philémo scripsit: Plaútus uortit bárbare:
Nomén Trinummo fécit. nunc hoc uós rogat
Vt líceat possidére hanc nomen fábulam.)
Tantúmst. ualete: adéste cum siléntio.

THE PROLOGUE.

LUXURY AND POVERTY.

LUX. Follow me this way, daughter, to perform
Thy mission.
PO. I do follow thee, but sooth,
I know not what our journey's end will be.
LU. 'Tis near, for yonder is the house. Do thou
Enter straightway. Now, friends, that none may fail
To understand the matter, I in brief,
If you but aid my effort, will explain.
First, who I am, and who, if you attend,
The maid just gone within, I will declare.
Plautus, the bard, has named me Luxury,
And given Poverty, the maiden, for my child.
But why she enters here at my impulse,
Now learn, and while I speak give lively ear.
A youth who dwells within, I urging on,
Hath brought to ruin his father's fine estate;
And since I see that he hath nothing left
With which to nourish me, I've given my child,
That he with her may pass his time of need.
But that thou may not wait in expectation
Th' unfolding of the story, two old men
Will enter, and to you disclose the plot.
Philemon wrote the play, 'tis called in Greek
"The Treasure;" Plautus turned it into Latin,
And named it "The Three Pieces;" he entreats
That it may be allowed to bear this name.
Enough, farewell; give kind and silent ear.

ACTVS I

MEGARONIDES

Amícum castigáre ob meritam nóxiam
Inmoénest facinus, uérum in aetate útile
Et cónducibile. nám ego amicum hodié meum
Concástigabo pró conmerita nóxia:
Inuítis, ni id me inuítet ut faciám fides.
Nam hic nímium morbus móres innasít bonos:
Ita plérique omnis iám sunt intermórtui.
Sed dum ílli aegrotant, ínterim morés mali
Quasi hérba inrigua súccreuere ubérrume:
Eorúm licet iam métere messem máxumam
Neque quícquam hic uile núnc est nisi morés mali.
Nimióque hic pluris paúciorum grátiam
Faciúnt pars hominum quam íd quod prosint plúribus.
Ita uíncunt illud cónducibile grátiae,
Quae in rébus multis ópstant odiossaéque sunt
Remorámque faciunt reí priuatae et públicae.

CALLICLES. MEGARONIDES

CALLICLES

Larém corona nóstrum decorarí uolo:
Vxór, uenerare, ut nóbis haec habitátio
Bona faústa felix fórtunataque éuenat—
Teque út, quam primum póssit, uideam emórtuam.

MEGARONIDES.

Hic illést, senecta aetáte qui factúst puer,
Qui admísit in se cúlpam castigábilem.
Adgrédiar hominem.

CALLICLES

Quóia hic uox prope mé sonat?

MEGARONIDES

Tui béneuolentis, sí ita's ut ego té uolo:
Sin áliter es, inimíci atque iratí tibi.

ACT I

SCENE I

(*Enter* MEGARONIDES.)

ME. To reprove a friend justly for his misdeeds is a thankless office, yet, as life goes, it is wholesome and profitable. I shall, therefore, visit upon my friend to-day well-deserved censure for his offense. Unwilling I would be, but that fidelity bids me do it. For here disease has fastened so firmly upon good morals that almost all are near to death. But while these languish bad morals like well-watered plants thrive most luxuriantly. There is nothing cheap here now except bad morals; but of these one can reap a plenteous harvest. Some men here value the favor of the few much more highly than the general good. Thus favor has greater influence than the public weal, and serves oftentimes to thwart and annoy, and is obstructive to both private and public interests.

SCENE II

(*Enter* CALLICLES *from his house and speaking to his wife who is within.*)

CA. I desire our household god to be crowned with a garland. Wife, reverently entreat that our dwelling here may be blest and favored, prospered and fortunate—(*turning away from the door*)—and that, as soon as possible, I may welcome your death.

ME. (*Aside.*) There's the man who has become a child in his old age, and is guilty of conduct that deserves punishment. I'll speak to him.

CA. Whose voice is this that sounds near me?

ME. The voice of your good friend if you are such as I would wish you; if not the voice of your foe, angry with you.

CALLICLES

O amíce, salue.

MEGARONIDES

Et tu édepol salue, Cállicles.
Valén? ualuistin?

CALLICLES

Váleo, et ualui réctius.

MEGARONIDES

Quid túa agid uxor? út ualet?

CALLICLES

Plus quam égo uolo.

MEGARONIDES

Bene hérclest illam tíbi ualere et uíuere.

CALLICLES

Credo hércle te gaudére, si quid míhi malist.

MEGARONIDES.

Omníbus amicis, quód mihist, cupio ésse item.

CALLICLES

Eho tú, tua uxor quíd agit?

MEGARONIDES

Inmortális est:
Viuít uicturaque ést.

CALLICLES

Bene hercle núntias,
Deosque óro ut uitaé tuaé superstes súppetat.

MEGARONIDES

Dum quídem hercle tecum núpta sit, sané uelim.

CALLICLES

Vin cónmutemus? túam ego ducam et tú meam?

MEGARONIDES

Nempe énim tu, credo, me ínprudentem obrépseris.
Habeás ut nanctu's: nóta mala res óptumast.
Nam ego núnc si ignotam cápiam, quid agam nésciam.

CALLICLES

Ne tu hércle faxo haud néscias quam rem égeris:

CA. Ah, my friend, greeting to you.

ME. And hearty greeting to you, Callicles. Are you well? Have you been well?

CA. Fairly well.

ME. How fares your wife? Is she hale?

CA. Better than I wish.

ME. 'Pon my word, I'm glad, for your sake, that she is alive and well.

CA. Of course you are happy if any misfortune befalls me.

ME. I wish the same for all my friends as for myself.

CA. Come now, its your turn. How's your wife thriving?

ME. She's immortal; she is living and will keep on living.

CA. Surely that's good news. I pray the gods that she may outlive you.

ME. Aye, were she yours I would fervently wish the same.

CA. Would you like to exchange wives, I taking your's and you mine?

ME. Obviously you are trying to creep upon me unawares. Keep the wife you have. The evil that is known is the most easily endured. For if I should now venture on an untried ill, it would puzzle my wits what to do.

CA. Be well assurred that you would soon be aware of the character of your deal. I'll promise you that you would not

Faxo haúd tantillum déderis uerborúm mihi.

MEGARONIDES

Edepól proinde ut diu uíuitur, bene uíuitur.
Sed hoc ánimum aduorte atque aúfer ridiculária:
Nam ego dédita opera huc ád te uenio.

CALLICLES

Quíd uenis?

MEGARONIDES

Malís te ut uerbis múltis multum obiúrigem

CALLICLES

Men?

MEGARONIDES

Númquis est hic álius praeter me átque te?

CALLICLES

Nemóst.

MEGARONIDES

Quid tu igitur rógitas, tene obiúrigem?
Nisi tú me mihimet cénses dicturúm male.
Nam si ín te aegrotant ártes antiquaé tuae,
Omníbus amicis mórbum tu incutiés grauem,
Vt té uidere audíreque aegróti sient.

CALLICLES

Qui in méntem uenit tíbi istaec dicta dícere?

MEGARONIDES

Quia omnís bonos bonásque adcurare áddecet,
Suspítionem et cúlpam ut apse ségregent.

CALLICLES

Non pótis utrumque fíeri.

MEGARONIDES

Quaproptér?

CALLICLES

Rogas?
Ne admíttam culpam, ego meó sum promus péctori:
Suspítiost in péctore alienó sita.
Nam núnc ego si te súrrupuisse súspicer
Iouí coronam dé capite ex Capitólio,

defraud me a whit in that bargain.

Me. Well, after all, as one lives long with another, he lives on comfortably. But, your attention, jests aside; I have a purpose in coming to you.

Ca. Why have you come?

Me. To censure you severely and at length.

Ca. Me?

Me. There is no one here besides you and me, is there?

Ca. There is no one.

Me. Why do you ask, then, whether I am to censure you? Unless you suppose that I am going to chide myself. For if your former virtues have become diseased you will infect all your friends with a serious malady, so that they will be sick at seeing and hearing you.

Ca. What put it into your head to utter words like these?

Me. Because all honorable men and women should carefully guard against suspicion and guilt.

Ca. To avoid both is not possible.

Me. Why so?

Ca. Do you ask? I carry the key of my own heart to lock out guilt, but suspicion is harbored in the heart of another. For example, if I were to suspect that you had stolen the laurel crown from the head of the statute of Jove surmounting thes ummit of the Capitol; and although you be innocent, if, neverthe-

Qui in cólumine astat summo: si id non féceris,
Atque íd tamen mihi lúbeat suspicárier:
Qui tu íd prohibere mé potes ne súspicer?
Sed istúc negoti cúpio scire quíd siet.

MEGARONIDES

Habén tu amicum aut fámiliarem quémpiam,
Quoi péctus sapiat?

CALLICLES

Édepol haud dicám dolo
Sunt quós scio esse amícos, sunt quos súspicor:
Sed tú ex amicis cértis mi es certíssumus.
Siquíd scis me fecísse inscite aut ínprobe,
Si id nón me accusas, túte obiurgandú's.

MEGARONIDES

Scio,
Et si ália huc causa ad te ádueni, aequom póstulas.

CALLICLES

Exspécto siquid dícas.

MEGARONIDES

Primumdum ómnium
Male díctitatur tíbi uolgo in sermónibus.
Turpílucricupidum té uocant ciués tui;
Tum autém sunt alii, quí te uolturiúm uocant:
Hostísne an ciuis cómedis, parui péndere.
Haec quom aúdio in te díci, discrucior miser.

CALLICLES

Est átque non est mi ín manu, Megarónides:
Quin dicant, non est: mérito ut ne dicánt, id est.

MEGARONIDES

Fuitne híc tibi amicus Chármides?

CALLICLES

Est ét fuit.
Id ita ésse ut credas, rém tibi auctorém dabo.
Nam póstquam hic eius rém confregit fílius
Vidétque ipse ad paupériem prostratum ésse se
Suámque filiam ésse adultam uírginem,
Simul éius matrem, suámpte uxorem, mórtuam;
Quoniam híne iturust ípsus in Seleúciam,
Mihi cónmendauit uírginem gnatám suam

less, I am pleased to suspect you, how can you prevent this suspicion? But I am anxious to know what that business of yours is.

ME. Have you any friend or acquaintance whose judgment is trustworthy?

CA. I will speak with perfect frankness. There are some whom I know to be my friends, and others whom I suppose to be, but I count you the fastest friend of all. If you know of any base or foolish act which I have done and do not call me to account, you deserve yourself to be reproved.

ME. Quite true, and if for any other purpose I have come to you, your sentence is just.

CA. I wait, if you have aught to say.

ME. First, then, people generally speak ill of you. Your fellow citizens nickname you Turpilucricupidum (*covetous of base gain*), and some call you a vulture, saying that you care little whether you devour stranger or fellow citizen. When I hear these charges against you I am greatly distressed.

CA. This matter both is and is not in my power, Megaronides. I cannot prevent evil reports, I can prevent their being deserved.

ME. Was not this Charmides your friend?

CA. He was and is my friend, and I will state to you a fact as evidence. After his son had squandered his fortune, and he saw that he was reduced to poverty, that his daughter was grown to womanhood, and that his wife, the daughter's mother, was dead, now that he was to depart for Selencia, he confided to my charge all his property, his maiden daughter and that profli-

Et rém suam omnem et illúm corrumptum fílium.
Haec, sí mi inimicus ésset, credo haud créderet.

MEGARONIDES

Quid tu ádulescentem, quem ésse corrumptúm uides,
Qui tuaé mandatus ést fide et fidúciae,
Quin eúm restituis? quín ad frugem cónrigis?
Ei rei óperam dare te fúerat aliquanto aéquius,
Siquí probiorem fácere posses, nón uti
In eándem tute accéderes infámiam
Malúmque ut eius cúm tuo miscerés malo.

CALLICLES

Quid féci?

MEGARONIDES

Quod homo néquam.

CALLICLES

Non istúc meumst.

MEGARONIDES

Emístin de adulescénte hasce aedes? quíd taces?
Vbi núnc tute habitas.

CALLICLES

Émi atque argentúm dedi
(Minás quadraginta, ádulescenti ipsi ín manum).

MEGARONIDES

Dedísti argentum?

CALLICLES

Fáctum, neque factí piget.

MEGARONIDES

Edepól fide adulescéntem mandatúm malae.
Dedistíne hoc facto ei gládium qui se occíderet?
Quid séctiust [aut quid interest] dare te ín manus
Argéntum amanti homini ádulescenti, animi ámpoti,
Qui exaédificaret suam íncohatam ignáuiam?

CALLICLES

Non égo illi argentum rédderem?

MEGARONIDES

Non rédderes,
Neque de íllo quicquam néque emeres neque uénderes,

gate son. If he were unfriendly to me, I do not think that he would have so trusted me.

Me. What about that young man whom you know to be profligate and who was committed to your trusty and faithful care? Why do you not reform him? Why do you not direct him into an honorable course? It would have been much more fitting for you to strive by some means to make of him a better man than to share his infamy by mingling your own dishonor with his.

Ca. What have I done?

Me. Deeds worthy of a villain.

Ca. That characterization does not fit me.

Me. Have you not bought of the young man this house—Why are you silent?—where you are now residing?

Ca. I bought it and paid the money, forty minae, into his own hands.

Me. You paid him money?

Ca. I did and do not regret it.

Me. Well, truly, a young man committed to a faithless guardian! Did you not by this act put into his hands a sword for self-destruction? What else is it, or how differ, when to a young man full of passion and devoid of will-power you pay over money by which he may complete the building, already under way, of his own dishonor?

Ca. Ought I not to have paid him the money?

Me. You ought not; nor to buy anything of him, nor sell

Nec quí deterior ésset, faceres cópiam.
Incónciliastin' eúm, qui mandatúst tibi?
Ille quí mandauit, éxturbasti ex aédibus?
Edepól mandatum púlcre et curatúm probe.
Crede huíc tutelam: suám rem melius gésserit.

CALLICLES

Subigís maledictis mé tuis, Megarónides,
Nouó modo adeo ut, quód meae concréditumst
Tacitúrnitati clám, fide et fidúciae,
Ne enúntiarem quoíquam neu facerém palam,
Vt míhi necesse sít iam id tibi concrédere.

MEGARONIDES

Mihi quód credideris, súmes ubi posíueris.

CALLICLES

Circúmspicedum te, néquis adsit árbiter.

MEGARONIDES

Non ést

CALLICLES

Sed quaeso idéntidem circúmspice.

MEGARONIDES

* * * * * * * *

Auscúlto siquid dícas.

CALLICLES

Si taceás, loquar.
Quoniam hínc est profectúrus peregre Chármides,
Thensaúrum demonstráuit mihi in hisce aédibus,
Hic ín conclaui quódam. sed circúmspice.

MEGARONIDES

Nemo híc est.

CALLICLES

Nummum Phílippeum ad tria mília.
Id sólus solum pér amicitiam et pér fidem
Flens me ópsecrauit suó ne gnato créderem,
Neu quoíquam unde ad eum id pósset permanáscere.
Nunc si ílle huc saluos réuenit, reddam suóm sibi;
Si quíd eo fuerit, cérte illius fíliae,
Quae míhi mandatast hábeo dotem cúnde dem,
Vt eam ín se dignam cóndicionem cónlocem.

anything to him, nor furnish any means to hasten his ruin. Have you not duped him who was confided to your trust? Have you not ousted from his house the man who gave the trust? Egad! a trust nobly and honorably managed! Only make *him* guardian and he will feather his own nest.

CA. By your reproaches, Megaronides, you compel me, in a manner quite unexpected, to impart to you that which was confided to my faithful and constant secrecy with the injunction not to disclose it to any one nor make it public.

ME. Whatever you deposit with me you can have again on demand.

CA. Look about to make sure that we are not overheard.

ME. There is no one near.

CA. But I beg you to keep a sharp outlook.

ME. (*After looking around*). I am attentive if you have anything to say.

CA. Be silent and I will speak. When Charmides went abroad he showed me a treasure in his house, locked in a certain room,—but look around.

ME. There is no one here.

CA. Of about three thousand philippeans (about $10,000). He and I being alone, with tears he begged me by our friendship and mutual confidence that I would not reveal it to his son, nor to anyone from whom he could learn the secret. Now, if he returns in safety I will restore to him his property. If anything should befall him I have at least wherewith to provide a dowry for his daughter, whom he committed to my charge, so that I may provide for her a marriage worthy of her station.

MEGARONIDES

Pro di ímmortales, uérbis paucis quám cito
Aliúm fecisti me: álius ad te uéneram.
Sed ut óccepisti, pérge porro próloqui.

CALLICLES

Quid tíbi ego dicam, qui íllius sapiéntiam
Et meám fidelitátem et celata ómnia
Paene ílle ignauos fúnditus pessúm dedit?

MEGARONIDES

Quidúm?

CALLICLES

Quia, ruri dúm ego sum unos séx dies,
Me apsénte atque insciénte, inconsultú meo,
Aedís uenalis hásce inscribit lítteris.

MEGARONIDES

Adésuriuit ét inhiauit ácrius.
Lupus ópseruauit, dúm dormitarét canes:
Gregem úniuorsum uóluit totum auórtere.

CALLICLES

Fecísset edepol, ni haéc praesensissét canes.
Sed núnc rogare hoc égo uicissim té uolo:
Quid fúit officium meúm me facere, fác sciam.
Vtrum índicare me eí thensaurum aequóm fuit,
Aduórsum quam eius me ópsecrauissét pater?
An ego álium dominum páterer fieri hisce aédibus?
Qui emísset, eius éssetne ea pecúnia?
Emi égomet potius aédis: argentúm dedi
Thensaúri causa, ut sáluom amico tráderem.
Neque ádeo hasce emi míhi nec ussuraé meae:
Illí redemi rússum, a me argentúm dedi.
Haec súnt: si recte seú peruorse fácta sunt,
Ego mé fecisse cónfiteor, Megarónides.
Em méa malfacta, em meám iam auaritiám tibi:
Hascíne propter res máledicas famás ferunt?

MEGARONIDES.

Παῦσαι: uicisti cástigatorém tuom.
Occlústi linguam: níhil est quod respóndeam

Me. Good Heavens! how quickly with few words you have completely changed me! I came to you a different man But proceed as you have begun.

Ca. How shall I describe to you the way in which that scapegrace nearly upset his father's precaution, my fidelity and the whole secret?

Me. How, then?

Ca. Why, while I was spending a few days in the country, without informing or consulting me he advertised the house for sale by a placard.

Me. He was very hungry and opened his mouth very eagerly. The wolf was on the watch while the dog was asleep; he wanted to ravage the whole flock at onee.

Ca. And, as I live, he would have done it, if this dog hadn't smelt it out beforehand. But now, in turn, I want to ask you a question. What do you think it was my duty to do? Ought I to have revealed to him the treasure in the face of his father's earnest entreaty? Or ought I to have suffered a stranger to become owner of the house? Would not the treasure be the property of the purchaser? To avoid all, I myself bought the house. I paid the money to save the treasure, in order that I might restore it intact to my friend. Nor did I even buy the house for my own use, but redeemed it for him, paying the money out of my own pocket. These are my acts; and whether right or wrong, I acknowledge them, Megaronides. Here are my misdeeds, here is my avarice for you. It is for these that I am slandered.

Me. Desist! You have vanquished your reprover. You have closen my mouth; I can make no reply.

CALLICLES

Nunc égo te quaeso ut me ópera et consilió iuues,
Conmúnicesque hanc mécum meam proúinciam.

MEGARONIDES

Pollíceor operam.

CALLICLES

Ergo úbi eris paulo póst?

MEGARONIDES

Domi.

CALLICLES

Numquíd uis?

MEGARONIDES

Cures tuám fidem.

CALLICLES

Fit sédulo.

MEGARONIDES

Sed quíd ais?

CALLICLES

Quid uis?

MEGARONIDES

Vbi nunc adulescéns habet?

CALLICLES

Postículum hoc recépit, quom aedis uéndidit.

MEGARONIDES

Istúc uolebam scíre. i sane núnciam.
Sed quíd ais, quid nunc uírgo? nempe apud tést?

CALLICLES

Itast,
Iuxtáque eam curo cúm mea.

MEGARONIDES

Recté facis.

CALLICLES

Numquíd, priusquam abeo, mé rogaturu's?

MEGARONIDES

Vale.
Nihil ést profecto stúltius neque stólidius,

CA. Now I request that you give me aid and counsel and share with me the government of this province of mine.

ME. I pledge you my aid.

CA. Where will you be a little later?

ME. At home.

CA. Anything more?

ME. Keep your trust.

CA. With all care.

ME. But another thing.

CA. What is that?

ME. Where is the young man staying now?

CA. He reserved this small building in the rear when he sold the house.

ME. That is what I wanted to know. I will not detain you longer.—But, stay! What about the girl? Of course, she's at your house?

CA. Yes, I care for her the same as for my own daughter.

ME. You do well.

CA. Anything more before I go?

ME. No; farewell. Assuredly nothing can be compared with

[Neque méndaciloquom néque adeo argutúm magis,]
Neque cónfidentilóquius neque peiúrius,
Quam urbáni adsidui cíues quos scurrás uocant.
Atque égomet me adeo cum íllis una ibidém traho:
Qui illórum uerbis fálsis acceptór fui,
Qui omnía se simulant scíre neque quicquám sciunt.
(Quod quísque in animod hábet aut habiturúst, sciunt:
Sciúnt, quid in aurem réx reginae díxerit:
Sciúnt, quod Iuno fábulatast cúm Ioue:)
[Quae néque futura néque sunt, tamen illí sciunt.]
Falsón' an uero laúdent, culpent quém uelint,
Non flócci faciunt, dúm illud quod lubeát sciant.
Omnís mortalis húnc aiebant Cálliclem
Indígnum ciuitáte ac sese uíuere,
Bonis qui hunc adulescéntem euortissét suis.
Ego de eórum uerbis fámigeratorum ínsciens
Prosílui amicum cástigatum innóxium.
Quod sí éxquiratur úsque apstirpe auctóritas,
Vnde quídque auditum dícant: nisi id adpáreat,
Famígeratori rés sit cum damno ét malo:
Hoc íta si fiat, público fiát bono;
Paucí sint faxim quí sciant quod nésciunt,
Occlúsioremque hábeant stultiloquéntiam.

these busybodies of the town whom they call gossips, for folly and stupidity, for prating falsehoods, for audacious and perjured assertions. And I put myself in the same class for crediting their lies. They pretend to know everything, but actually know nothing at all. They know what every man has in mind or is going to have; they know what the king whispered into the ear of the queen; they know what Juno said in conversation with Jove. That which does not exist nor ever will exist, yet they know it just the same. When they wish to praise or blame a person, they care not a whit whether their words are true or false, only so they get credit for knowing whatever suits their notion. Everybody was saying that this man Callicles is unworthy of citizenship, unfit to live, for having defrauded that young man out of his property. I, prompted by their scandals, hastened, in my ignorance, to censure my innocent friend. Now, if, when scandals are traced to their source and no authority for them be found, a fine and punishment were meted out to the scandal-mongers, the result would be a public blessing. I would see to it there be precious few to know what they don't know and that they put a check on their silly tattle.

ACTVS II

LYSITELES

Multás res simítu in meó corde uórso,
Multum ín cogitándo dolórem indipíscor.
(Egomét me coquo ét macero ét defetígo :
Magíster mihi éxercitór animus núnc est.)
Sed hóc non liquét nec satís cogitátumst,
Vtrám potius hárum mihi ártem expetéssam,
Vtram aétati agúndae arbitér firmiórem :
Amórin me au réi opsequí potius pár sit :
(Vtra ín parte plús sit uolúptatis uítae
Ad aétatem agúndam.)
De hac ré mihi satis haú liquet : nisi hóc sic faciam, opínor,
Vt utrámque rem simul éxputem, iudex sim reusque ad eám rem.
Ita fáciam : ita placét.
Ómnium primum amóris arteis quem ád modum expediant éloquar.
Númquam amor quemquám nisi cupidum póstulat se hominem ín plagas
Cónicere : eos petit, eós sectatur, subdole ab re cónsulit :
Blandíloquentulúst, harpagó, mendax, cúppes,
Despóliator, látebricolarum hóminum corrúmptor,
Celátum indagátor.
Nám qui amat, quod amát quom extemplo eius sáuiis percúlsus est,
Ílico rés foras lábitur, líquitur.
'Dá mihi hoc, mél meum, sí me amas, si aúdes.'
Átque ibi ille cucúlus : 'o océlle mi, fíat :
Ét istuc et si ámplius uís dari, dábitur.'
Íbi pendentém ferit : iam ámplius órat ;
[Nón satis id ést mali, ni ámpliust étiam,]
Quód bibit, quód comest, quód facit súmpti.
Nóx datur : dúcitur fámilia tóta :
Véstiplica, unctor, aúri custos, flábelliferae, sándaligerulae,

ACT II

SCENE 1

(*Enter* LYSITELES.)

LY. So many matters in my mind at once
I turn, that constant cogitation brings
Me great distress; and I do harass, fret,
And so fatigue myself that now my mind
Becomes a training master. But my thinking
Doth not make it clear, nor settle quite
Which of these arts to follow, which to deem
Of more importance for the game of life,
Pursuit of love or wealth; on which sides falls,
In spending time, more pleasure. On this point
My mind is not quite clear, nor will it be,
Unless I should consider both together,
And in the matter be both judge and culprit.
I like that notion, I will do it. First
I'll state the arts of love, how they proceed.
Love never seeks a victim save a fool
Eager to cast himself into his snare.
Such he aims at, pursues, and to their harm
Gives counsel. He's a flatterer, a liar,
A baited hook, a dainty loving scamp,
A thief, corrupter of the brothel-haunters,
A pryer-into-secrets. He who has
A lady-love, when stabbed with coaxing kisses,
How fast his substance melts and glides away!
"If thou dost love me, sweet, please give me this."
And he, the cuckoo, thereupon replies,
"My little jewel, thou shalt have it; yes
If thou dost wish, I'll give thee that, and more."
And then she plies the spineless fool; at once
She asks for more, and what she eats and drinks,
The expense she makes, is not enough ill
Unless more follows. Night comes on. The whole
Establishment is mustered, wardrobe maid,
Anointer, treasurer, fan and slipper bearers,

Cántrices, cistéllatrices, núntii renúntii,
Raptóres panis ét peni.
Fit ípse, dum illis cómis est,
Inóps amator.
Haéc ego quom cum meo ánimo reputo [et récolo],
Vbí qui eget, pretí quam sit párui:
Ápage amor, nón places, níl ego ted útor.
Quamquam íllud dulcést, esse et bíbere,
Amór amari dát satis quod aégrest:
Fugít forum, fugát suos cognátos,
Fugát se ipsus áp suo contútu
[Neque eum sibi amicum uolunt dici.]
Mílle modis amor ígnorandust, prócul abdendus átque apstandust.
Nám qui in amorem praécipitauit, péius perit quasi sáxo saliat.
Ápage te sís, amor: tuás res tibi habéto.
Ámor, amicús mihi né fuas:
Súnt tamen, quós miseros mísere maleque hábeas,
Quós tibi fécisti obnóxios.
Cérta res ést ad frugem ádplicare ánimum:
Quámquam ibi grándis capitúr labos.
Bóni sibi haec éxpetunt, rém, fidem, honórem,
Glóriam et grátiam: hóc probis prétiumst
Eó mihi mágis lubet cúm probis pótius
Quam ínprobis uíuere uanídicis.

PHILTO. LYSITELES

PHILTO

Quo íllic homo fóras se penetrauit ex aédibus?

LYSITELES

Pater ádsum: inperá quiduis, néque ero in morá tibi,
Nec látebrose me áps tuo conspectu occultábo.

PHILTO

Féceris pár tuis céteris fáctis,
Sí patrem pércoles. tuám per pietátem,
Nólo ego cum ínprobis té uiris, gnáte mi,
Neque ín uia neque ín foro necúllum sermonem éxsequi.

Singers, and bearers of the money box,
And those that carry tidings to and fro,
Robbers of bread and meat. Polite to these
The lover soon himself is destitute.
Revolving this in mind, as I reflect
How little one is thought of when he's poor,
I cry, "Begone, Love, I've no use for thee!"
To eat and drink is sweet, yet love bestows
Of bitter a full dose. He flees the forum,
Scatters thy kinsmen, drives thee from their sight,
Nor do they wish him to be called their friend.
Love in a thousand ways should be ignored,
Driven away, kept at a distance. Yes;
For he who falls in love as surely dies
As if he leaped from the Tarpeian rock.
Begone, Love, please, attend thine own affairs,
And mayst thou never be a friend of mine.
Yet there are always some whom thou dost hold
In wretched bondage, and hast made, alas,
Thy ready servants. Now pursuit of wealth
Is sure to fix the mind on honest business,
Although thereby it must assume great care.
Good men pursue wealth, credit, honor, fame,
And favor. These reward the just. And so,
I more incline to live with honest men
Than cast my lot with hypocrites and liars.

SCENE II

(*Enter* PHILTO *from his house.*)

PH. Where hath that boy of mine betaken himself?
LY. Father, I'm here, command me, there shall be
No loitering, nor ever from thy sight
Shall I conceal myself.
PH. 'Tis well, my son;
If thou thy sire dost honor, thou wilt act
In keeping with thy previous conduct quite,
And filial love. I greatly wish thee, b y,
With wicked men to have no speech at all
In street nor forum; for too well I know

Nóui ego hoc saéculum, móribus quíbus sit:
Málus bonum málum esse uolt, út sit sui símilis;
Túrbant, miscent móres mali, rapáx, auarus, ínuidus:
Sácrum profanum, púplicum priuátum habent, hiúlca gens.
Haéc ego doleo, haec súnt quae excruciant, haéc dies noctes cánto ut caueas.
Quód manu nequeunt tángere, tantum fás habent quo mánus apstineant:
Cétera rape, trahe, fúge, late.
Lácrumas mi haec quom uídéo eliciunt, quía ego ad hoc genus dúraui hominum.
Quin prius me ad plurís penetraui?
Nam hí mores maiórum laudant, eósdem lutitant quós conlaudant.
His ego de ártibus grátiam fácio,
Ne ínbuas eís tuom ingénium.
Meó modo móribus uíuito antíquis:
Quae égo tibi praécipio, ea tácito.
Níhil ego istós moror faéceos móres,
Quíbus boni sése dedécorant.
Haéc tibi sí mea capésses inpéria,
Múlta bona in péctore consident.

LYSITELES

Semper ego usque ad hánc aetatem ab ineunte adulescéntia
Tuís seruiui séruitutem inpériis, praeceptís, pater.
Pro ingenio ego me líberum esse rátus sum, pro inperió tuo
Méum animum tibi séruitutem séruire aequom cénsui.

PHILTO

Quí homo cum animo inde áb ineunte aetáte depugnát suo,
Vtrum itane esse máuelit, ut eum ánimus aequom cénseat,
Án ita potius, út parentis éum esse et cognatí uelint:
Sí ánimus hominem pépulit, actumst, ánimo seruit, nón sibi;
Sín ipse animum pépulit, uiuit, uíctor uictorúm cluet.
Tú si animum uicísti potius quam ánimus te, est quod gaúdeas.
(Nímio satiust, út opust ita ted ésse, quam ut animó lubet.
Qui ánimum uincunt, quám quos animus, sémper probiorés cluent.)

The morals of this age. The bad man wishes
The good man like himself. Bad-moraled men
Rapacious, greedy, envious, create
Confusion and disturbance. This vile tribe,
With mouth wide open, seize upon for prey
Public and private, sacred and profane.
This state of things grieves and distresses me
And so I harp about it day and night
To keep thee on thy guard. What with the hand
They cannot touch, this only do they think
It right to keep their hands from. Other things
Pillage and plunder, then escape and hide.
Viewing the morals of the day, I weep
That I have lived to see this race of men.
Why did I not, before these evils, join
That greater host below? Men now extol
The virtues of the fathers, then asperse
The very men they praise. Such arts as these
I beg thee not to practice, not to taint
Thy nature with them. Like thy father live,
And in the good old way. Remember, too,
My precepts. I say nothing as regards
The wild and foolish habits of thy youth,
With such oftimes good men disgrace themselves.
If my instructions thou wilt only heed,
Many good precepts in thy heart will sink.

Ly From my earliest youth I have ever, father, been obedient to your command and teachings, deeming myself a free man by nature, I have yet thought it just to subject my inclination to your authority.

Ph. The man who from early life, contending against his bent, seeks to settle the question whether his inclinations, or, better, the good advice of parents and friends shall determine his course, will be ruined and become a slave to passion if inclination prevails; whereas, if he gets the mastery over self, while he lives he will enjoy the distinction of the grandest victory. You have reason to rejoice if you have ruled your spirit rather than your spirit you. It is far better to follow the dictates of prudence than of passion. Fairer is ever their repute who in this contest win than theirs who yield.

LYSITELES

Ístaec ego mi sémper habui aetáti integumentúm meae,
Né penetrarem me úsquam, ubi esset dámni conciliábolum,
Neú noctu irem obámbulatum, neú suom adimerem álteri
Né tibi aegritúdinem, pater, párerem, parsi sédulo:
Sárta tecta túa praecepta usque hábui mea modéstia.

PHILTO

Éxprobras, bene quód fecistí? tíbi fecisti, nón mihi.
Míhi quidem aetas áctast ferme, túa istuc refert máxume.
Bénefacta benefáctis aliis pértegito, ne pérpluant:
Ís probust, quem paénitet, quam próbus sit et frugí bonae.
(Qui ípsus sibi satís placet, nec próbus est nec frugí bonae:
Qui ípsus se contémnit, in eost índoles indústriae.)

LYSITELES

Ób eam rem haec, pater, aútumaui, quía res quaedamst, quám uolo
Égo me aps te exoráre.

PHILTO

Quid id est? uéniam dare iam géstio.

LYSITELES

Ádulescenti hinc génere summo, amíco atque aequalí meo,
Mínus qui caute et cógitate suám rem tractauít, pater,
Béne uolo ego illi fácere, si tu nón neuis.

PHILTO

Nempe dé tuo?

LYSITELES

Dé meo: nam quód tuomst, meúmst, omne meum autém tuomst.

PHILTO

Quíd is? egetne?

LYSITELES

Egét.

PHILTO

Habuitne rem?

LYSITELES

Hábuit.

PHILTO

Qui eam pérdidit?
Públicisne adfínis fuit an máritumis negótiis?

Ly. I have always had those precepts of yours as a shelter to my youth, to keep me from the assemblies of the vicious, from night-revelry and from defrauding others. I have studiously refrained, father, from causing you pain and have always discreetly observed your rules without a breach.

Ph. Why vaunt your merits? Your upright life has benefited *you*, not me, a fact of the greatest importance to you, but the sands of my life are well-nigh run. Heap good deeds on good deeds lest they lose their value. He is the good and honorable man who aims at higher excellences, not he who is satisfied with his merits. That man has a true genius for life's work who thinks modestly of himself.

Ly. I have made these remarks, father, because I would like to obtain a certain favor from you.

Ph. What is it? I am longing to grant it.

Ly. If you do not object, father, I would like to do a kindness to a young man here of noble birth, my friend and companion, who has handled his means with too little care and foresight.

Ph. Out of your own means of course.

Ly. Out of my own means; for all that is yours is mine and mine is yours.

Ph. What of him? Is he in want?

Ly. He is.

Ph. Did he have means?

Ly. He did.

Ph. How did he lose it? Was he engaged in business pretaining to the State or in ventures at sea? Was it in trade, or

Mércaturan', án uenalis hábuit, ubi rem pérdidit ?

LYSITELES

Níhil istorum.

PHILTO

Quíd igitur ?

LYSITELES

Per cómitatem edepól, pater.
Praéterea aliquantum ánimi causa in deliciis dispérdidit.

PHILTO

Édepol hominem praémandatum férme [et] familiáriter.
Quí quidem nu-quam pér uirtutem rém confregit, á-que eget.
Níl moror eum tíbi esse amicum cum éius modi uirtútibus.

LYSITELES

Quía sine omni málitiast, toleráre ei egestatém uolo.

PHILTO

Dé mendico mále meretur, qui eí dat quod edit aút bibat :
Nam ét illud quod dat pérdit et illi pródit uitam ad míseriam.
Nón eo haec dico, quín quae tu uis égo uelim et faciám lubens ;
Séd ego hoc uerbum quomílli quoidam díco, praemostró tibi,
Vt ita te aliorúm miserescat, né tis alios mísereat.

LYSITELES

Déserere illum et déiuuare in rébus aduorsís pudet.

PHILTO

Pól pudere quám pigere praéstat totidem lítteris.

LYSITELES

Édepol deum uirtúte dicam, páter, et maiorum ét tua
Múlta bona bene párta habemus : béne si amico féceris.

PHILTO

Dá magnis diuítiis si quid démas, plus fit án minus ?

LYSITELES

Mínus, pater. sed cíui inmuni scín quid cantarí solet ?
'Quód habes ne habeás, et illuc quod nón habes habeás : malum,
Quándo equidem nec tíbi bene esse púte pati neque álteri.'

PHILTO

Scío equidem istuc íta solere fíeri : uerum, gnáte mi,
Ís est inmunis, quoí nihil est qui múnus fungatúr suom.

was he dealing in slaves when he lost it?

Ly. None of these.

Ph. How then?

Ly. Through liberality, to be sure, father. Besides he has squandered considerable on pleasures and self indulgence.

Ph. 'Pon my word, a very friendly commendation of a man who has shattered his fortune by no honorable means and yet is in want. I do not care to have you on terms of friendship with virtues of that kind.

Ly. Because he is not at all vicious I would like to relieve his wants.

Ph. He deserves ill of a beggar who supplies him food and drink, for he both loses what he gives and prolongs for the latter a life of misery. Not but that I am willing and glad to do as you desire, but while I state this maxim for the benefit of your unnamed friend, I caution you not to pity others in such a way that others may have to pity you.

Ly. I am ashamed to desert him in his trouble and withhold assistance.

Ph. Nay, but shame is better than blame, though the letters number the same.

Ly. Truly, by the blessing of heaven, I may say, father, and through your aid and that of our ancestors we have a fine fortune. Do not blame yourself if you have shown kindness to a friend; rather should you be ashamed if you have failed to do so.

Ph. If from a large fortune you take away something, does it decrease or diminish?

Ly. It becomes less, father; but do you know the lines people sing about a niggardly man? "May you not have what you have, and have what you have not; for you, wretch, permit your possessions to benefit neither yourself nor others."

Ph. I am well aware of that custom; but, my son, he is, in the true sense, niggardly who has nothing with which to do his part.

LYSITELES

Deúm uirtute habémus, et qui nósmet utamúr, pater,
Ét aliis qui cómitati símus beneuoléntibus.

PHILTO

Nón edepol tibi pérnegare póssum quidquam quód uelis.
Quóii egestatém tolerare uís? loquere audactér patri.

LYSITELES

Lésbonico hinc ádulescenti, Chármidai fílio,
Qui íllic habitat.

PHILTO

Quín comedit quód fuit, quod nón fuit?

LYSITELVS

Ne éxprobra, pater: multa eueniunt hómini, quae uolt quaé neuolt.

PHILTO

Méntire edepol, gnáte, atque id nunc fácis haud consuetúdine.
Nám sapiens quidém pol ipsus fíngit fortunám sibi:
Eó non multa quaé neuolt euéniunt, nisi fictór malust.

LYSITELES

Múlta illi opera opúst ficturae, quí se fictorém probum
Vítae agundae esse éxpetit: sed hic ádmodum adulescéntulust.

PHILTO

Nón aetate, uérum ingenio apíscitur sapiéntia.
Ágidum eloquere, quid dare illi núnc uis?

LYSITELES

Nil quicquám, pater.
Tú modo ne me próhibeas accípere, si quid dét mihi.

PHILTO

Án eo egestatem eí tolerabis, sí quid ab illo accéperis?

LYSITELES

Eó, pater.

PHILTO

Pol ego ístam uolo me rátionem edoceás

LYSITELES

Licet.
Scín tu illum quo génere gnatus sít?

Ly. Thanks to the gods, we have both enough for ourselves and with which to be liberal to our friends.

Ph. Really, I cannot altogether refuse anything you wish. Who is the person whose wants you would relieve? Speak freely to your father.

Ly. This young Lesbonicus, son of Charmides, who resides there.

Ph. What, he who has eaten up all he had and more, too?

Ly. Do not reproach him, father; fortune brings evil as well as good.

Ph. Nay, but you are mistaken, my son, and you do not usually reason thus; for the wise man is most certainly the architect of his own fortune, and unless he is an unskilled workman, the unwished for does not often result.

Ly. He must bestow much pains on his fashioning who would form with skill the course of life; but *he* is quite young.

Ph. Wisdom is not acquired by years but depends on disposition. But, come, now, tell me what you wish to give him.

Ly. Nothing whatever, father; only that you will not prevent my acceptance if he should offer anything to me.

Ph. Is that the way you are to relieve his wants, by accepting something from him?

Ly. That is the way, father.

Ph. Egad! I wish you would show me how that can be done.

Ly. I will. Do you know the standing of his family?

PHILTO

Scio, adprimé, probo.

LYSITELES

Sóror illist adúlta uirgo grándis: eam cupió, pater,
Dúcere uxorém sine dote.

PHILTO

Síne dote uxorémne?

LYSITELES

Ita,
Tuá re salua: hoc pácto ab illo súmmam inibis grátiam,
Néque commodius úllo pacto ei póteris auxiliárier.

PHILTO

Égone indotatám te uxorem ut pátiar?

LYSITELES

Patiundúmst pater:
Ét eo pacto addíderis nostrae lépidam famam fámiliae.

PHILTO

Múlta ego possum dócta dicta [et] quámuis facundé loqui:
Hístoriam ueterem átque antiquam haec méa senectus sústinet.
Vérum ego quando te ét amicitiam et grátiam in nostrám domum
Vídeo adlicere, etsi áduorsatus tíbi fui, istac iúdico:
Tíbi permitto, pósce, duce.

LYSITELES

Dí te seruassínt mihi.
Séd ad istam adde grátiam unum.

PHILTO

Quíd id est autem unum?

LYSITELES

Éloquar.
Túte ad eum adeas út concilies, túte poscas.

PHILTO

Éccere.

LYSITELES

Nímio citius tránsiges: firmum ómne erit, quod tu égeris.
Gráuius tuom erit únum uerbum ad eám rem quam centúm mea.

PH. Yes; very high.

LY. He has a sister who is now of marriageable age. I desire to take her for a wife, father, without a dowry.

PH. What! A wife without a dowry!

LY. Just so, but without expense to you. In this way you will obtain his warmest esteem and cannot, in any other manner, so opportunely assist him.

PH. And shall I suffer you to take a wife without a dowry?

LY. You must permit me, father, and thus you will gain an excellent reputation for our family.

PH. I could utter many wise sayings and speak very fluently on this subject; for this old age of mine could relate the stories of former days. But since I see that your purpose is to gain friendship and esteem for our family, although I was averse, I decide in your favor; I give my permission; ask for the girl and marry her.

LY. May the gods preserve you! But grant me an additional favor.

PH. Well, what is that?

LY. I will tell you. Do *you* go to him, you win him over, you ask for her.

PH. Did you ever hear the like!

LY. You will bring it about much more quickly than I could; all that you do will be done to stay. One word of yours to that effect will have more weight than a hundred of mine.

PHILTO

Ecce autem in benignitate répperi negotium.
Dábitur opera.

LYSITELES

Lépidus uiuis. haec sunt aedes, hic habet:
Lésbonicost nómen. age rem cúra: ego te opperiár domi.

PHILTO

Non óptuma haec sunt, néque ut ego aecum cénseo:
Verúm meliora sunt quam quae detérruma.
Sed hoc únum consolátur me atque animúm meum,
Quia quí nil aliud, nísi quod sibi solí placet,
Consúlit aduorsum fílium, nugás agit:
Miser éx animo fit, fáctius nihiló facit.
Suaé senectuti ácriorem hiemém parat,
Quom illam ínportunam témptestatem cónciet.
Sed áperiuntur aédes, quo ibam: cómmodum
Ipse éxit Lesbonícus cum seruó foras.

LESBONICVS. STASIMVS. PHILTO

LESBONICVS

Minus quíndecim diés sunt, quom pro hisce aédibus
Minás quadraginta áccepisti a Callicle.
Estne hóc quod dico, Stásime?

STASIMVS

Quom considero,
Meminísse uideor fíeri.

LESBONICVS

Quid factúmst eo?

STASIMVS

Exéssum, expotum, exúnctum, elutum in bálineis.
Piscátor, pistor ápstulit, lanií, coqui,
Holitóres, myropolae, aúcupes: confít cito.
Non hércle minus diuórse distrahitúr cito,
Quam sí tu obicias fórmicis papáuerem.

LESBONICVS

Minus hércle in istis rébus sumptumst séx minis.

PH. See now into what a troublesome job I've got myself by my affability! You can count on my assistance.

LY. You are very kind. This is the house; here he resides; his name is Lesbonicus. Quickly attend to the matter. I will await you at home. (*Exit* LYSITELES.)

SCENE III

PH. This is not the best course, nor does it seem to me to be reasonable; it is, on the other hand, not the worst possible course. But my feelings are consoled by this one reflection, that the man who determines with regard to his son only what is agreeable to himself, acts foolishly. He suffers in mind and in no way advances his end. He is preparing a more severe winter for his old age when he provokes an unseasonable storm upon his head. But some one is opening the door of the house to which I was going. Lesbonicus himself with his slave is coming out just in time.

SCENE IV

(PHILTO *steps to one side.* *Enter* LESBONICUS *and* STASIMUS *from the house.*)

LE. It is less than a fortnight since you received from Callicles forty minae for this house. Am I not right, Stasimus?

ST. When I consider I seem to recall that it is so.

LE. What has been done with it?

ST. Eaten up, drunk up, spent on ointments, spent on baths; the fish dealer and the baker have carried it off, and the butchers, the cooks, the green-grocers, the perfumers and the poulterers; it was soon gone. Ye gods! it was scattered in all directions as quickly as a poppy thrown to ants.

LE. But certainly less than six minae were spent in that way.

STASIMVS

Quid, quód dedisti scórtis?

LESBONICVS

Ibidem uná traho.

STASIMVS

Quid, quód ego frudaui?

LESBONICVS

Ém istaec ratio máxumast.

STASIMVS

Non tíbi illud adparére, si sumás, potest,
Nisi tu ínmortale rére esse argentúm tibi.

PHILTO

Sero átque stulte, príus quod cautum opórtuit,
Postquám comedit rém, post rationém putat.

LESBONICVS

Nequáquam argenti rátio conparét tamen.

STASIMVS

Ratió quidem hercle adpáret: argentum *οἴχεται*.
Minás quadraginta áccepisti a Cállicle,
Et ille acédis mancupio áps te accepit.

LESBONICVS

Ádmodum.

PHILTO

Pol opíno adfinis nóster aedis uéndidit.
Patér quom peregre uéniet, in portást locus:
Nisi fórte in uentrem fílio conrépserit.

STASIMVS

Millé drachumarum tárpezitae Olýmpico,
Quas dé ratione débibuisti, rédditae.

LESBONICVS

Nempe quás spopondi.

STASIMVS

Immó 'quas despondi' inquito,
Pro illo ádulescente, quém tu esse aibas díuitem.

LESBONICVS

Factum.

St. What of that you gave to courtesans?

Le. I included that.

St. What of that that I embezzled?

Le. Ah! that's the biggest leak of all.

St. The account can't be clear to you if you simply do the spending, unless you suppose that your money will last forever.

Ph. (*Aside.*) Foolish fellow, he reckons the cost when it's too late, after his money is all gone. He ought to have thought of that before.

Le. And yet the account is by no means clear.

St. Heavens! the account is clear enough; it's the money that is clear—gone. You got forty minae from Callicles and he took possession of the house.

Le. Exactly.

Ph. (*Aside.*) Well, I declare! I believe our future kinsman has sold his house. When his father returns from abroad he will have to consort with beggars, unless he creeps into the stomach of his son.

St. We paid to the banker Olympicus a thousand drachmae which you owed him on account.

Le. You mean that which I pledged as security.

St. Say rather what you got rid of by pledging as security for that young man who you said was rich.

Le. That's true.

STASIMVS

Vt quidem illud périerit.

LESBONICVS

Factum íd quoquest.

Nam núnc eum uidi míserum et me eiius míseritumst.

STASIMVS

Miserét te aliorum, tui nec miseret néc pudet.

PHILTO

Tempúst adeundi.

LESBONICVS

Éstne hic Philto qui áduenit?

Is hérclest ipsus.

STASIMFS

Édepol ne ego istúm uelim

Meum fíeri seruom cúm suo pecúlio.

PHILTO

Erum átque seruom plúrumum Philtó iubet

Saluére, Lesbonícum et Stasimum.

LESBONICVS

Dí duint

Tibi, Philto, quaequomque óptes. quid agit fílius?

PHILTO

Bene uólt tibi.

LESBONICVS

Edepol mútuom mecúm facit.

STASIMVS

Nequam illud uerbumst 'béne uolt', nisi qui béne facit.

Ego quóque uolo esse líber: nequidquám uolo.

Hic póstulet frugi ésse: nugas póstulet.

PHILTO

Meus gnátus me ad te mísit, inter te átque nos

Adfínitatem ut cónciliarem et grátiam.

Tuam uólt sororem dúcere uxorem: ét mihi

Senténtia eademst ét uolo.

LESBONICVS

Hau noscó tuom;

St. True—yes, that that's a dead loss.

Le. Yes, that is also true. But I found him in trouble and was sorry for him.

St. You have pity for others, but neither pity nor shame for yourself.

Ph. It's time to speak to him (*coming forward*).

Le. Isn't that Philto who is coming? It certainly is he.

St. Ye gods! but I'd like to have him for my slave with his bank account.

Ph. Lesbonicus and Stasimus, master and slave, how do you do? I am very happy to see you.

Le. We are delighted to meet you, Philto. How is your son?

Ph. He is your well-wisher.

Le And I cordially reciprocate his good wishes.

St. (*Aside.*) Good wishes are useless without good deeds. I also wish to be free, but the wish is vain. Should my master wish to keep steady he couldn't make it go.

Ph. My son has sent me to you to propose a bond of friendship and family alliance between you and us. He would like to marry your sister, and I sympathize with his desire and join in the proposal.

Le. This is not like you, sir. In your prosperity you are

Bonís tuis rebus meás res inridés malas.

PHILTO

Homo égo sum, tu homo's: íta me amabit Iúppiter,
Neque té derisum aduénio neque dignúm puto.
Verum hóc quod dixi, méus me orauit tílins
Vt tuám sororem póscerem uxorém sibi.

LESBONICVS

Mearúm me rerum nóuisse aequomst órdinem.
Cum uóstra nostra nón est aequa fáctio:
Adfínitatem uóbis aliam quaérite.

STASIMVS

Satín tu sanu's méntis aut animí tui,
Qui cóndicionem hanc répudies? nam illúm tibi
Ferentárium esse amícum inuentum intéllego.

LESBONICVS

Abin hínc dierecte?

STASIMVS

Si hércle ire occipiám, uotes.

LESBONICVS

Nisi me áliud quid uis, Phílto, respondí tibi.

PHILTO

Benígniorem, Lésbonice, té mihi,
Quam núnc experior ésse, confidó fore.
Nam et stúlte facere et stúlte fabulárier,
Vtrúmque, Lesboníce, in aetate haú bonumst.

STASIMVS

Verum hércle hic dicit.

LESBONICVS

Óculum ego ecfodiám tibi,
Si uérbum addideris.

STASIMVS

Hércle quin dicám tamen:
Nam sí sic non licébit, luscus díxero.

PHILTO

Ita tú nunc dicis. nón esse aequiperábilis
Vostrás cum nostris fáctiones átque opes?

LESBONICVS

Dicó.

mocking my misfortunes.

PH. I am a man; you are a man. I swear by high heaven that I have not come to mock you nor do I think you deserving such treatment. But as I said, my son begged me to ask for him your sister in marriage.

LE. It is proper for me to recognize the rank befitting my fortune. My social position is not on an equality with yours. Seek, therefore, a more suitable match elsewhere.

ST. Have you gone completely daft, to reject such a match as this? Why, I perceive that you have found here a friend in need.

LE. Oh, you go and be hanged!

ST. By heavens, if I should start you'd prevent me.

LE. If that is all, Philto, you have my answer.

PH. I trust that you will yet be more favorable to me, Lesbonicus, than I now find you; for in this life of ours neither foolish actions nor foolish words are helpful.

ST. By Jove, he's right.

LE. If you say another word, I'll gouge out your eye.

ST. Gad! I'll speak it just the same in one way or another; if not with two eyes, then as a one-eyed man.

PH Do I understand you to say that you are inferior to our family in social position and in means?

LE. I do say so.

PHILTO

Quid? nunc si in aédem ad cenam uéneris,
Atquè ibi opulentus tíbi par forte obuénerit:
(Adpósita cena sít, popularem quám uocant:
Si illí congestae sínt epulae a cluéntibus,)
Si quíd tibi placeat, quód illi congestúm siet,
Edísne an incenátus cum opulento áccubes?

LESBONICVS

Edím, nisi si ille uótet.

STASIMVS

At pol ego, etsí uotet,
Edim átque ambabus mális explétis uorem,
Et quód illi placeat, praéripiam potíssumum:
Nexue illí concedam quícquam de uitá mea.
Verécundari néminem aput mensám decet:
Nam ibi dé diuinis átque humanis cérnitur.

PHILTO

Rem fábulare.

STASIMVS

Nón tibi dicám dolo:
Decédam ego illi de uia, de sémita,
De honóre populi: uérum quod ad uentrem áttinet,
Non hércle hoc longe, nísi me pugnis uícerit·
Cena hác annonast síne sacris heréditas.

PHILTO

Sempér tu hoc facito, Lésbonice, cógites,
Id óptumum esse, túte uti sis óptumus:
Si id néqueas, saltem ut óptumis sis próxumus.
Nunc cóndicionem hanc, quam égo fero et quam aps té peto,
Dare átque accipere, Lésbonice, té uolo.
Dei díuites sunt, deós decent opuléntiae
Et fáctiones: uérum nos homúnculi
Vatíllum animai: quám quom extemplo emísimus,
Aequó mendicus átque ille opulentíssumus
Censétur censu ad Áccheruntem mortuos.

STASIMVS

Mirúm quin tu illo técum diuitiás feras:
Vbi mórtuos sis, íta sis ut nomén cluet.

PH. Take an illustration. Suppose, for instance, that you had come to a feast, and that a wealthy man chanced to be your table companion, and that the dinner called the public banquet was served up; now, if his clients should heap up before him rich viands of which you are fond, would you eat or would you sit dinnerless beside your wealthy neighbor?

LE. I would eat unless he forbad me.

ST. Good gracious, but I'd eat even if he did forbid me. I'd eat and cram both cheeks full, and if there was anything that he was fond of that would be the very first thing I'd snatch, and I wouldn't yield to him a whit in what concerns my living. A man has no business to be bashful at the table, for there matters human and divine are decided.

PH. Your words are to the point.

ST. I'll tell you the honest truth. I'll give him the right of way in the street and on the walk, and I'll not compete with him for public office; but when it comes to the stomach, ye saints! I won't yield a hair's breadth unless he pounds me into it. As prices go now a dinner is an unencumbered inheritance.

PH. Always bear this in mind, Lesbonicus; it is the best policy to be perfect, and if you fail of that, to come as near to it as possible. Now this match that I propose and seek, I desire you to accept and grant, Lesbonicus. The *gods* are *really* rich; wealth and rank befit them. But we poor mortals, soon as the spark of life leaves us, whether beggars or millionaires, in the limbo of the dead, are rated just alike.

ST. It is strange that you don't take your money with you there. When you are dead, dead you will be, as the word means.

PHILTO

Nunc út scias hic fáctiones átque opes
Non ésse neque nos tuám neglegere grátiam:
Sine dóte posco tuám sororem fílio.
Quae rés bene uortat. hábeon pactam? quíd taces?

STASIMVS

Pro di ínmortales, cóndicionem quóius modi!

PHILTO

Quin fábulare 'dí bene uortant: spóndeo'?

STASIMVS

Eheú, ubi dicto níl erat usus, spóndeo
Dicébat: nunc hoc, quom ópus est, non quit dícere.

LESBONICVS

Quom adfínitate uóstra me arbitrámini
Dignum, hábeo uobis, Phílto, magnam grátiam.
Sed si haéc res grauiter cécidit stultitía mea,
Philto, ést ager sub úrbe nobis: nam ís de diuitiís meis
Solús superfit praéter uitam rélicuos.

PHILTO

Profécto dotem níl moror.

LEBONICVS

Certúmst dare.

STASIMVS

Nostrámne, ere, uis nutrícem, quae nos éducat,
Abálienare a nóbis? caue sis féceris.
Quid edémus nosmet póstea?

LESBONICVS

Etiam tú taces?
Tibi egón rationem réddam?

STASIMVS

Plane périimus,
Nisi quíd ego conminíscor. Philto, té uolo.

PHILTO

Siquíd uis, Stasime.

STASIMVS

Huc cóncede aliquantúm.

PHILTO

Licet.

PH. Now that you may know that there is in this matter no question of social position or wealth and that we do not undervalue your regard, I ask your sister without dowry for my son. And may it turn out happily! Do you agree to the bethrothal? Why are you silent?

ST. Immortal gods! what a rare proposal!

PH. Why do you not say, "Heaven's blessing upon it! I promise."

ST. Ah! When there is nothing to be gained in making promises he can make them fast enough, but when it is really needful to promise he can't say the word.

LE I am very thankful to you, Philto, that you deem me worthy of kinship with you. But though my fortune has been ruined by my folly, Philto, I have a piece of land near the city which I will give for my sister's dowry; for of my wealth that is all I have left except my life.

PH. Really, I care nothing about a dowry.

LE. But I am resolved to give one.

ST. (*Aside to Lesbonicus.*) Will you take from us, master, the nurse that nourishes us? Take care how you do that, I beg of you. How are we to be supported in the future?

LE. Will you hold your tongue? Am I accountable to you?

ST. (*Aside.*) We are utterly ruined unless I can contrive some scheme. (*To Philto.*) Philto, I want to speak with you.

PH. I am at your service, Stasimus.

ST. Step here, a little aside.

PH. Certainly. (*They retire.*)

STASIMVS

Arcáno tibi ego hoc díco, ne ille ex té sciat
Neue álius quisquam.

PHILTO

Créde audacter quídlubet.

STASIMVS

Per deós atque homines díco, ne tu illúnc agrum
Tuom síris umquam fíeri neque gnatí tui.
Ei rei árgumenta dícam.

PHILTO

Audire edepól lubet.

STASIMVS

Primum ómnium olim térra quom proscínditur,
In quíncto quoque súlco moriuntúr boues.

PHILTO

Apage.

STASIMVS

Áccheruntis óstium in nostróst agro.
Tum uínum, priusquam cóctumst, pendet pútidum.

LESBONICVS

Consuádet homini, crédo. etsi sceléstus est,
At mi ínfidelis nón est.

STASIMVS

Audi cétera.
Postíd frumenti qvom álibi messis máxumast,
Tribus tántis illi mínus redit quam opséueris,

PHILTO

Em istíc oportet ó seri morés malos,
Si in ópserendo póssint interfíeri.

STASINVS

Neque umquam quisquamst, quóius ille agér fuit,
Quin péssume ei res uórterit. quoiúm fuit,
Alii éxolatum abiérunt, alii emórtui,
Alí se suspendére. em nunc hic quóius est,
Vt ad íncitas redáctust.

PHILTO

Apage a me ístum agrum.

ST. I tell you this is secrecy. Do not tell my master nor anyone else.

PH. Trust me confidently with anything you like.

ST. I say to you, in heaven's name, never suffer that farm to belong to you or your son And I'll tell you why.

PH. Bless me! I would like to hear.

ST. Well, then, first of all, whenever the ground is being plowed, in every fifth furrow, the oxen drop down dead.

PH. Away with it!

ST. The entrance to hell is on that farm of ours. And then, the grapes rot on the vines before they are ripe.

LE. (*Aside*). He is persuading the man, I suppose. Although he is a rascal, yet he is true to me.

ST. Hear the rest. When everywhere else the crops are unusually large that farm yields only one-third of what was sown on it.

PH. Ah! there's the place to sow bad morals if they can be killed in the sowing.

ST. Every owner of that farm has had very bad luck; some went into exile, others are dead and gone, and still others have hanged themselves. Why, the present owner is reduced to extremity.

PH None of that farm for me!

STASIMVS

Magis ápage dicas, si ómnia ex me audíueris.
Nam fúlguritae súnt alternas árbores:
Sués moriuntur ánginad acérrume:
Oués scabrae sunt, tám glabrae, em, quam haec ést manus.
Tum autém Surorum, génus quod patientíssumumst
Hominúm, nemo exstat qui íbi sex menses uíxerit:
Ita cúncti solstitiáli morbo décidunt.

PHILTO

Credo égo istuc, Stasime, ita ésse: sed Campáns genus
Multó Surorum iam ántidit patiéntiam.
Sed is ést ager profécto, ut te audiuí loqui,
Malós in quem omnes públice mittí decet:
Sicút fortunatórum memorant ínsulas,
Quo cúncti, qui aetatem égerint casté suam,
Conuéniant: contra istóc detrudi máleficos
Aequóm uidetur, quí quidem istius sít modi.

STASIMVS

Hospítiumst calamitátis. quid uerbís opust?
Quamuís malam rem quaéras, illic réperias.

PHILTO

At tu hércle et illi et álibi.

STASIMVS

Caue sis díxeris
Me tíbi dixisse hoc.

PHILTO

Díxti tu arcanó satis.

STASIMVS

Quin híc quidem cupit illum ápse abalienárier,
Siquém reperire póssit, quoii os súblinat.

PHILTO

Meus quídem hercle numquam fíet.

STASIMVS

Si sapiés quidem.
Lepide hércle de agro ego húnc senem detérrui:
Nam quí uiuamus níhil est, si illum amíserit.

PHILTO

Redeo ád te, Lesboníce.

St. You'd have greater reason to say that if I should tell you all. Why, every other tree has been struck by lightning, the swine die of severe attacks of quinsey, the sheep are mangy and as bare of wool, sir, as this hand. And then of the Syrians, the hardiest race of men on earth, not one survives who has lived there six months; so surely do all succumb to midsummer fever.

Ph. Doubtless that is all true, Stasimus; the Campanians, however, are a far hardier race than the Syrians. But, most assuredly, if your description is correct, that farm is the spot to which bad men should be deported by public sentence. Just as they tell us of the islands of the blest where all meet together who have lived virtuously; so, on the other hand, it would be a good plan to banish evil doers to your farm, since it is such a hell on earth.

St. It's the very harbor of calamity. But why multiply words? Look for any evil you please, you'll find it there.

Ph. But, my life for it, you will find it there and elsewhere, too.

St. Be careful not to mention that I have told you this.

Ph. You have confided your secret to safe keeping.

St. For, really, he wants to rid himself of that farm if he can find anyone to bamboozle.

Ph. Depend upon it, it will never be mine.

St. Right, if you are wise. (*Aside.*) Cleverly, by Jingo, I've frightened the old fellow out of taking the farm. Why, we've nothing on which to live if he lets that go.

Ph. I return to you, Lesbonicus.

LESBONICVS

Dic sodés mihi,
Quid hic ést locutus técum ?

PHILTO

Quid censés ? homost :
Volt fíeri liber, uérum quod det nón habet.

LESBONICVS

Et ego ésse locuples, uérum nequicquám nolo.

STASIMVS

Licitúmst si uelles : núnc, quom nihil est, nón licet.

LESBONICVS

Quid técum, Stasime ?

STASIMVS

De ístoc, quod dixtí modo.
Si anté uolisses, ésses : nunc seró cupis.

PHILTO

De dóte mecum cónueniri níl potis :
Quod tíbi lubet, tute ágito cum gnató meo.
Nunc tuám sororem fílio poscó meo :
Quae rés bene uortat. quíd nunc ? etiam cónsulis ?

LESBONICVS

Quid istíc ? quando ita uis, dí bene uortant : spóndeo.

PHILTO

Numquam édepol quoiquam tam éxpectatus fílius
Natúst, quam illuc est 'spóndeo' natúm mihi.

STASIMVS

Di fórt unabunt uóstra consilia.

PHILTO

Íta uolo.
I hac, Lésbonice, mécum, ut coram núptiis
Dies cónstituatur : eádem haec confirmábimus.

LESBONICVS

Sed, Stásime, abi huc ad meám sororem ad Cálliclem :
Di hóc negoti quó modo actumst.

STASIMVS

Ibitur.

LESBONICVS

Et grátulator meaé sorori.

LE. Tell me, if you please, what he said to you.

PH. What would he naturally? He's a human being. He wants his freedom, but has nothing with which to purchase it.

LE. And I would like wealth, but the wish is vain.

ST. (*In a low tone.*) You had the chance if you'd been willing to take it; now, with nothing left, you've no chance.

LE. What are you muttering to yourself, Stasimus?

ST. About what you said just now. If you had wished it before you could have been rich; now you are wishing it when it's too late.

PH. No arrangement can be made with me about a dowry. Transact that business with my son as you like. Now I ask your sister for him, and may it turn out happily! What now, still considering?

LE. Well, I'll not contend. Since you so wish it, Heaven's blessing on it! I betroth her.

PH. Never, I'll wager, was a son born to any man, so anxiously hoped for, as I have hoped for the birth of that "I betroth her."

ST. The gods will bless the engagement.

PH. That is my wish. Come this way with me, Lesbonicus, in order that, in the presence of the parties, a day may be set for the nuptials. At the same time we will confirm this compact. (*Exit* PHILTO *to his house.*)

LE. But, Stasimus, go to my sister at the house of Cullicles and tell her how this matter has been arranged.

ST. I will go.

LE. And congratulate my sister.

STASIMVS

Scílicet.

LESBONICVS

Dic Cállicli, med út conueniat

STASIMVS

Í modo.

LESBONICVS

De dóte ut uideat quíd facto opus sit.

STASIMVS

I modo

LESBONICVS

Nam cértumst sine dote haúd dare.

STASIMVS

Quin tu í modo.

LESBONICVS

Neque enimílli damno umquam ésse patiar —

STASIMVS

Abí modo.

Meam néglegentiam.

STASIMVS

Í modo

LESBONICVS

Nulló modo

Aequóm uidetur quín, quod peccarim,

STASIMVS

Í modo.

LESBONICVS

Potíssumum mihi id ópsit.

STASIMVS

I modo.

LESBONICVS

Ó pater,

En úmquam aspiciam te?

STASIMVS

Í modo, i modo, í modo.

St. Of course.

Le Tell Callicles to meet me——

St. Why, you had better go.

Le. In order that he may decide what is to be done about a dowry.

St. You go.

Le. For I am resolved that she shall have a dowry.

St. Begone now yourself.

Le. For I will never suffer her to lose——

St. Do be off now.

Le. Through my neglect.

St. Go!

Le. It seems but just that for my offenses——

St. Begone!

Le. I should be the one to suffer most.

St. Go!

Le. O my father! Shall I ever see you again?

St. Begone! Begone! Begone!

LESBONICVS

Eo: tu ístuc cura quód te iussi: ego iam híc ero.

STASIMVS

Tandem ínpetraui abíret. di uostrám fidem,
Edepól re gesta péssume gestám probe,
Si quídem ager nobis sáluos est: etsi ádmodum
In ámbiguost etiám nunc, quid ea ré fuat.
Si is álienatur, áctumst de colló me:
Gestándust peregre clúpeus, galea, sárcina.
* * * * *
Effúgiet ex urbe, úbi erunt factae núptiae:
Ibít statim aliquo in máxumam malám crucem,
Latrócinatum aut ín Asiam aut in Cíliciam. —
Ibo húc quo mi inperátumst, esti odi hánc damum
Postquam éxurbauit híc nos nostris aédibus.

Le I go. You do as I have ordered. I will be back here directly. (*Exit Lesbonicus, following Philto*)

St. At last I've got him off. Ye gods! after such hard luck what good luck now, if we can only save the farm! Still, even yet there is some doubt how the thing will turn out. But if we do part with the land it's all up with my neck. In foreign lands I'll have to carry shield, helmet and baggage. * * * He will flee from the city as soon as the wedding is over. He'll be off somewhere to utter ruin as usual, going to Asia or Cilicia to serve as a mercenary. I'll go where he ordered me although I hate this house, ever since the present owner bundled us out. (*Exit.*)

ACTVS III

CALLICLES. STASIMVS

CALLICLES

Quómodo tu istuc, Stásime, dixti?

STASIMVS

Nóstrum erilem fílium
Lésbonicum suám sororem déspondisse; em, hóc modo.

CALLICLES

Quoí homini despóndit?

STASIMVS

Lysitelí Philtonis fílio,
Síne dote

CALLICLES

Síne dóte ille illam in tántas diuitiás dabit? 605
Nón credibile díces.

STASIMVS.

At tu núllus edepol créduas.
Si hóc non credis, égo credidero —

CALLICLES

Quíd?

STASIMVS

Me nihili péndere.

CALLICLES

Quám dudum istuc aút ubi actumst?

STASIMVS

Ílico, hic ante óstium:
Tám modo, inquit Praénestinus.

CALLICLES

Tánton' in re pérdita
Quam ín re salua Lésbonicus fáctus est frugálior? 610

ACT III

Scene 1

(*Enter* Callicles *and* Stasimus.)

Ca. How did you say, Stasimus?

St. My master's son, Lesbonicus, has betrothed his sister. See! That's how.

Ca. To whom?

St. To Lysiteles, Philto's son, without a dowry.

Ca. Will he marry her into so wealthy a family without a dowry? I can't believe what you say.

St. Why of course, you wouldn't believe. If you don't believe this I'll believe——

Ca. What?

St. That I don't care a fig whether you believe it or not.

Ca. How long since this was done, and where?

St. Right here before this door, in a moment like (just now) as the Praesnestines say.

Ca. Has Lesbonicus become a more thrifty manager in his bankruptcy than when he had means?

STASIMVS

Átque equidem ipsus últro uenit Phílto oratum fílio.

CALLICLES

Flágitium quidem hércle fiet, nísi dos dabitur uírgini.
Póstremo edepol égo istam rem ad med áttinere intéllego.
Íbo ad meum castígatorem atque áb eo consiliúm petam.

STASIMVS

Própemodum, quid illíc festinet, séntio et subolét mihi :
Vt agro euortat Lésbonicum, quando euorit aédibus.
Ó ere Charmidés, quom apsenti hic túa res distrahitúr tibi,
Vtinam te rediísse saluom uídeam, ut inimicós tuos
Vlciscare et míhi, ut erga te fui ét sum, referas grátiam.
Nímium difficilést reperiri amícum ita ut nomén cluet,
Quoí tuam quom rém credideris, síne omni cura dórmias.
Séd generum nostrum íre eccillum uídeo cum adfiní suo.
Néscio quid non sátis inter eos cónuenit : celerí gradu
Eúnt uterque : illé reprehendit húnc priorem pállio.
Haúd ei euscheme ádstiterunt. húc aliquantum apscéssero :
Ést lubido orátionem audíre duorum adfínium.

LYSITELES. LESBONICVS. STASIMVS.

LYSITELES

Sta ílico : noli áuorsari, néque te occultassís mihi.

LESBONICVS

Pótin' ut me ire, quód profectus súm, sinas ?

LYSITELES

Si in rém tuam,
Lésbonice, essé uideatur, glóriae aut famaé sinam.

LESBONICVS

Quód est facillumúm, facis.

LYSITELES

Quid id ést ?

LESBONICVS

Amico iniúriam.

LYSITELES

Néque meumst neque fácere didici.

ST. And what is more, Philto came in person of his own and accord to plead for his son.

CA. It will surely be a scandal to let the girl marry without a dowry. In short, as a matter of fact, I perceive that this matter concerns me. I will go to my critic and ask his advice. (*Exit.*)

ST. I have a suspicion and some inkling of his object in hastening there. It is to get the farm away from Lesbonicus as he got the house. O my master, Charmides, since in your absence your property is being squandered, would that I could see you back in safety that you might wreak vengeance on your enemies and reward me for my past and present devotion to you. It is extremely difficult to find a friend in the true sense of the word; one to whom you can entrust your interests and then go to sleep with no concern. But, hello, I see our son-in-law coming with his brother-in-law. They have had a falling out over something or other. They're both hurrying right along. Lesbonicus is ahead, and Lysiteles catches him by the cloak. They have stopped and are standing in no becoming attitude. I'll step aside here a little. I'd like to hear the conversation between these two brothers-in law.

SCENE II

LY. Stop right where you are. Do not turn away nor hide your face from me.

LE. Will you not let me go where I was bound?

LY. If it appears to be to your interest, Lesbonicus, in the way of honor or reputation, I will.

LE. You are doing what it is very easy to do.

LY. What is that?

LE. Wrong to a friend.

LY. That's not my way either by nature or training.

LESBONICVS

Indóctus quam docté facis !
Quíd faceres, si quís docuisset te út sic odio essés mihi ?
Béne quom simulas fácere mihi te, mále facis, male cónsulis.

LYSITELES

Égone ?

LESBONICVS

Tu ne.

LYSITELES

Quíd male facio ?

LESBONICVS

Quód ego nolo, id quóm facis.

LYSITELES

Tuaé rei bene consúlere cupio.

LESBONICVS

Tún mi es melior quam égo mihi ?
Sát sapio, satis, ín rem quae sint méam, ego conspició mihi.

LYSITELES

Án id est sapere, ut quí beneficium a béneuolente répudies ?

LESBONICVS

Núllum beneficium ésse duco id, quóm quoi facias nón placet.
Scío ego et sentio ípse quid agam : néque mens offició migrat,
Néc tuis depéllar dictis quín rumori séruiam.

LYSITELES

Quíd ais ? nam retinéri nequeo quín dicam ea quae prómeres :
Itan tandem hanc maiióres famam trádiderunt tíbi tui,
Vt uirtute eorum ánteperta pér flagitium pérderes
Átque honori pósterorum tuórum ut uindex fíeres ?
Tíbi paterque auósque facilem fécit et planám uiam
Ád quaerundum honórem : tu fecísti ut difficilís foret,
Cúlpa maxume ét desidia tuísque stultis móribus.
Praeóptauisti, amorem tuom uti uírtuti praepóneres :
Núnc te hoc facto crédis posse optégere errata ? aha, nón itast.
Cápe sis uirtutem ánimo et corde expélle desidiám tuo.
Ín foro operam amícis da, ne in lécto amicae ut sólitus es.
Átque istum ego agrum tíbi relinqui ob eám rem denixe expeto,
Vt tibi sit, qui té conrigere póssis : ne omnino ínopiam

Le. How skillfully you do it without training! What skill you would show if some one had instructed you how to be troublesome to me! While you pretend kindness you wrong me in deed and counsel.

Ly. I?

Le. You indeed.

Ly. How?

Le. By doing that which is displeasing to me.

Ly. I desire to consult your interests.

Le. Are you better to me than I am to myself? I have sufficient discretion and understanding to know what is to my advantage.

Ly. What! Do you call this discretion, to reject a favor proffered by a friend?

Le. I consider that no favor which is displeasing to the recipient. I know and am sensible of what I am doing and my understanding does not refuse its functions. Neither am I dissuaded by your reasoning from having respect for public opinion

Ly. *You* respect for public opinion! Why, I cannot refrain from saying what you deserve. Was it for this, pray, that your ancesters bequeathed to you an unsullied name that you by scandalous conduct might destroy what their excellence acquired? That you might preserve fair fame for your posterity your father and grandfather opened for you a plain and easy path to distinction. You have made it exceedingly difficult by vice and indolence and your shameless conduct. You have preferred lust to honor. Now do you think that you can cover up your faults by this assumed virtue? No, sir, you cannot do it. Let virtue rule your life and abandon your course of indolence and vice. Give your services to your friends in the courts and not * * * * as you are wont to do. And I greatly desire that you retain possession of that farm of yours, that it may be useful

Cíues obiectáre possint tíbi, quos tu inimicós habes.

LESBONICVS.

Ómnia ego istaec quaé tu dixti scío, uel exsignáuero :
Vt rem patriam et glóriam maiórum foedarím meum.
Scíbam ut esse mé deceret, fácere non quibám miser ;
Íta ui Veneris uíctus, otio áptus in fraudem íncidi.
Séd tibi nunc, proinde út merere, summam habebo grátiam.

LYSITELES

Át operam períre meam sic ét te haec dicta spérnere
Pérpeti nequeó : simul me píget parum pudére te.
Ét postremo, nísi mi auscultas átque hoc quod dicó facis,
Túte pone té latebis fácile ne inueniát te honor :
Ín occulto iacébis, quom te máxume clarúm uoles.
Pérnoui equidem, Lesbonice, ingénium tuom ingenuom ádmodum :
Scío te sponte nón tuapte errásse, sed amorém tibi
Péctus opscurásse : atque ipse amóris teneo omnís uias.
Ítast amor, ballísta ut iacitur : níl sic celerest néque uolat :
Átque is mores hóminum moros ét morosos éfficit.
Mínus placet quod cónsuadetur : quód dissuadetúr, placet.
Quom ínopiast, cupiás : quando eius cópiast, tum nón uelis.
[Ílle qui aspellit, ís compellit : ílle qui consuadét, uetat.]
Ínsanum malúmst hospitio déuorti ad Cupídinem.
Séd te moneo hoc étiam atque etiam ut réputes, quid facere éxpetas.
Si ístuc, quod conáre, facis, incéndio incendés genus.
Tum ígitur aquae erit tíbi cupido, quí restinguas [ócius] :
Átque si eris náctus, proinde ut córde amantes súnt cati,
Né scintillam quídem relinques, génus qui congliscát tuom.

LESBONICVS

Fácil est inuentú : datur ignis, tam étsi ab inimicó petas.
Séd tu obiurgans me á peccatis rápis deteriorem ín uiam.
Méam sororem tíbi dem suades síne dote. aha, non cónuenit
Mé, qui tantam abúsus sum rem pátriam, porro in dítiis
Ésse agrumque habére, egere illam aútem, ut merito me óderit.
Númquam erit aliénis grauis, qui suís se concinnát leuem.
Sícut dixi, fáciam : nolo té iactari diútius.

LYSITELES

Tánton meliust té sororis caúsa egestatem éxsequi,

for your reform; so that your enemies may not reproach you with utter destitution.

Le. I know, and will even set my seal to all that you have said; that I have squandered my inheritance and sullied the honor of my family. I knew what was right, but, wretched man, I could not do it. So chained was I by strong passion, so bound by indolence, that I fell into vice But you have now my warmest thanks as you deserve.

Ly. But I cannot suffer my labor to be thus lost, and my counsels spurned. At the same time I am grieved that you have so little shame. And, in short, unless you listen to me and do as I advise, you will stand in your own light, and honor will not easily find you; in obscurity you will remain when you shall desire above all things to win distinction. I know full well your noble nature, Lesbonicus. I know that you have not strayed from the path of virtue at your own impulse, but that the eyes of your soul have been blinded by passion; and I understand all the ways of the passion of love. Love is like a ball shot from a cannon; nothing is so fleet nor flies so swiftly. And it is love that makes a man's moods silly and captious. When there is a scarcity of anything, he wants that; when it abounds, he does not care for it The one driving him away, invites him, while he who persuades, prohibits. That which is most commended, pleases him the least; but he is pleased with that from which you would dissuade him It is an outrageously bad inn to put up at the sign of Cupid. But I advise you to consider again and again what you will choose to do. If you go on as you now promise, you will set on fire your family; and then you will long for water with which quickly to quench the flames, and if you obtain it, like wondrously cunning lovers, you will not leave a spark by which your family may be rekindled.

Le. That's easily found. You can get fire even from an enemy. But in chiding me you are urging me from my faults to a worse course. You are trying to persuade me to give you my sister without a dowry. Ah, it is not fitting that I, who have wasted so large an inheritance, should in future be rich and possess a farm, while she will be in want and will justly detest me. Never will he be a man of influence with strangers, whose conduct prevents the esteem of his friends. I will do as I have said. Do not trouble yourself further about it.

Ly. Is it so much better that you, for your sister's sake, should suffer want, and that I by preference have the farm, by

Átque [eum] agrum me habére quam te, túa qui toleres moénia?

LESBONICVS

Nólo ego mihi te tám prospicere, quí meam egestatém leues,
Séd ut inops infámis ne sim: né mi hanc famam dífferant,
Mé germanam meám sororem in cóncubinatúm tibi,
Sí sine dote dém, dedisse mágis quam in matrimónium.
Quís me improbior pérhibeatur ésse? haec famigerátio
Té honestet, me cónlutulentet, sí sine dote dúxeris.
Tíbi sit emoluméntum honoris: míhi quod obiecténtur siet.

LYSITELES

Quid? te dictatórem censes fóre, si aps te agrum accéperim?

LESBONICVS

Néque uolo neque póstulo neque cénseo: uerúm tamen
Ís est honos hominí pudico, méminisse officiúm suom.

LYSITELES

Scío equidem te animátus ut sis: uídeo, subolet, séntio:
Íd agis ut, ubi adfínitatem intér nos nostram adstrínxeris,
Átque agrum dederís nec quicquam hic tíbi sit qui uitám colas,
Éffugias ex úrbe inanis, profugus patriam déseras
(Cógnatos, adfínitatem, amícos factis núptiis).
Méa opera hinc protérritum te meáque auaritia aútument.
Íd me conmissúrum ut patiar fíeri, ne animum indúxeris.

STASIMVS

Noénum possum quín exclamem: euge eúge, Lysitelés, *πάλιν*:
Fácile palmam habés: hic uictust: uícit tua comoédia.
(Híc agit magis ex árgumento et uérsus meliorís facit.
Etiam ob stultitiám tuam te túeris? multabó mina.)

LESBONICVS

Quíd tibi interpellátio aut in cónsilium huc accéssioist?

STASIMVS

Eódem pacto quo húc accessi, apscêssero.

LESBONICVS

I hac mecúm domum,
Lysiteles: ibi de ístis rebus plúra fabulábimur.
Níhil ego in occulto ágere soleo. méus ut animust, éloquar:
Sí mihi tua sorór, ut ego aequom cénseo, ita nuptúm datur
Síne dote neque tu hínc abituru's, quód meumst, id erít tuom;
Sín aliter animátus es, bene quod agis eueniát tibi.
Égo amicus numpuám tibi ero alio pácto: sic senténtiast.

means of which you might discharge the duties of your station?

Le. I do not wish you to be devising means for relieving my wants, but rather to see that I, though poor, be not disgraced, and that this report about me be not published abroad, that I have given you my own sister in concubinage, because undowered, rather than in marriage. Who would be considered more shameless than I? Such a report would bring honor to you but disgrace to me. If you were to marry her without a dowry it would enhance your reputation but be a matter of reproach to me.

Ly. What! Do you think you will be dictator if I accept that favor from you?

Le. I neither wish, ask nor think it; but this is honor, for an upright man to remember his duty.

Ly. I know what your purpose is. I see it, I detect and perceive it. As soon as the knot is tied that will make us relatives, and you have given up that land and have nothing on which to live, you will flee from the city penniless. The wedding over, you will desert your country, your relatives and friends and go into exile. People will say that it was through me and my avarice that you were frightened away. Do not imagine that I will suffer myself to be a party to such a transaction.

St. Well now I can't help exclaiming, Bravo! Bravo! Lysiteles, Encore! You easily win the prize; he is beaten; your acting is better. (*To Lesbonicus.*) He plays better in character and his lines are superior. Are you such a dolt as to maintain your part still? I'll fine you a mina.

Le. What business have you to interrupt us? What brought you here to our counsels?

St. That which brought me here shall take me away. (*Retires.*)

Le. Step this way to my house, Lysiteles; there we will further discuss these matters.

Ly. I am wont to do nothing in secret. I speak my mind openly. If, as seems to me proper, your sister is given to me in marriage, without dowry, and you do not abandon home, what is mine is yours. But if you are disposed otherwise, I wish you prosperity. I can never be your friend on other terms. That's my ultimatum. (*Exit Lesbonicus abruptly.*)

STASIMVS

Ábit hercle ille quidem. écquid audis, Lýsiteles: ego té uolo.
Híc quoque hinc abiit. Stásime, restas sólus. quid ego núnc agam,
Nísi uti sarcinám constringam et clúpeum ad dorsum accómmodem,
Fúlmentas iubeám suppingi sóccis? non sistí potest.
Vídeo caculam mílitarem mé futurum haud lóngius.
Átque aliquem ad regem ín saginam si érus se coniexít meus,
Crédo ad summos béllatores ácrem — fugitorém fore,
Ét capturum spólia ibi — illum quí ero aduorsus uénerit.
Égomet autem, quom éxtemplo arcum et pháretram et sagittas súmpsero,
Cássidem in capút, — dormibo plácided in tabernáculo.
Ád forum ibo: núdius sextus quoí talentum mútuom
Dédi, reposcam, ut hábeam mecum quód feram uiáticum.

MEGARONIDES. CALLICLES

MEGARONIDES

Vt míhi rem narras, Callicles, nulló modo
Pote fíeri prosus quín dos detur uírgini

CALLICLES

Namque hércle honeste fíeri ferme nón potest,
Vt eám perpetiar íre in matrimónium
Sine dóte, quom eius rém penes me habeám domi.

* * * * *

MEGARONIDES

* * * * *

Paráta dos domíst: nisi exspectáre uis,
Vt eám sine dote fráter nuptum cónlocet:
Post ádeas tute Phíltonem et dotém dare
Te ei dícas: facere id éius ob amicitiám patris.
Verum hóc ego uereor, ne ístaec pollicitátio
Te in crímen populo pónat atque infámiam.
Non témere dicant té benignum uírgini:
Datám tibi dotem, ei quám dares, eius á patre:
Ex eá largiri teílli neque ita, ut sít data,
Columém te sistere eí, sed detraxe aútument,

ST. Great Scott! he's gone. Do you hear, Lysiteles? I want to speak with you. (*Exit Lysiteles abruptly.*) And he's gone, too. Stasimus, you're alone. What's before me now but to pack my knapsack, sling my shield on my back and have heels put on my shoes? The thing can't be stopped. I see that I must soon be a soldier's drudge. When my master has hired out his services to some king I doubt not that when compared with the mightiest warriors he will prove himself to be foremost —— in retreat, and that there he will capture the spoil who —— shall come against my master. But I, soon as ever I have armed myself with bow, quiver and arrows, and placed the helmet on my head, will —— sleep peacefully in my tent. I'll go to the forum and demand the return of the talent I loaned six days ago so as to have something to take along for travelling expenses. (*Exit.*)

SCENE III

(*Enter* MEGARONIDES *and* CALLICLES.)

ME. As you state the case, Callicles, a dowry must, by all means, be given to the girl.

CA. Certainly; for it would scarcely be decent for me to permit her to marry without a dowry, when I have her fortune in my possession at home * * * *

ME. * * * * You have a dowry ready at your house, unless you choose to wait until her brother has consummated the marriage without a dowry, and then you go to Philto and tell him that you will give her a dowry, your motive being friendship for her father. Yet I fear that any such proffer would expose you to the slander and calumnies of the people. They would say that with good reason you are generous to the young woman: that her father left with you a dowry to be given her, and with that you are so liberal to her; and that you do not hand over to her the entire amount, but that you have embezzled a portion of

Nunc si ópperiri uís aduentum Chármidi,
Perlóngumst: huic ducéndi interea apscésserit
Lubído: atqui ea condício uel primáriast.

CALLICLES

Nam hercle ómnia istaec uéniunt in mentém mihi.

MEGARONIDES

Vide si hóc utibile mágis atque in rem députas:
Ipsum ádeas Lesbonícum edoctum ut rés se habet.

CALLICLES

Vt égo nunc adulescénti thensaurum índices
Indómito, pleno amóris ac lascíuiae?
Minumé, minume hercle uéro. nam certó scio,
Locúm quoque illum omnem, úbi situst, coméderit.
Quem fódere metuo, sónitum ne ille exaúdiat,
Neu rem ípsam indaget, dótem dare si díxerim.

MEGARONIDES

Quo pácto ergo igitur clám dos depromí potest?

CALLICLES

Dum occásio ei rei réperiatur, ínterim
Ab amíco alicúnde mútuom argentúm rogem.

MEGARONIDES

Potin' ést ab amico alicúnde exorarí?

CALLICLES

Potest.

MEGARONIDES

Gerraé: ne tu illud uérbum actutum inuéneris:
'Mihí quidem hercle nón est quod dem mútuom'

CALLICLES

Malim hércle ut uerum dícant quam ut dent mútuom.

MEGARONIDES

Sed uíde consilium, sí placet.

CALLICLES

Quid cónsilist?

MEGARONIDES

Scitum, út ego opinor, cónsilium inuení.

it. But again, if you await the return of Charmides, it will be a long time. Meantime this young man may lose his inclination to marry; and this is an extraordinarily fine offer.

CA. I agree with you, for, as I live, all these points presented themselves to my mind.

ME. See if you think this plan more useful and advisable; that you go to Lesbonicus and tell him how the matter stands.

CA. But should I disclose the treasure to a young man incapable of self-control, wholly possessed of passion and wantonness? Good heavens, no! by no means. For I know of a certainty that he would consume the very place where it is buried. I dare not dig there for fear that he will hear the sound and in consequence discover the money. He surely would do so if I should offer to give the dowry.

ME. How, then, can the dowry money be secretly taken out?

CA. Until an opportunity should occur for it, I could, meanwhile, ask for a loan of the money from some friend.

ME. Could you prevail upon some friend to loan it?

CA. I could.

ME. Bosh! You would certainly meet with this answer at once: "Upon my word, I really have no money to loan."

CA. Upon my word, I would prefer that they speak the truth rather than make the loan.

ME. But here's a plan. See if it pleases you.

CA. What is your plan?

ME. I think I have hit upon a shrewd one.

CALLICLES

Quid est ?

MEGARONIDES

Homo cónducatur áliquis iam quantúm potest,
Ignóta facie, quae híc non uisitáta sit.
Mendácilocum aliquem * * * *
Falsídicum, confidéntem.

CALLICLES

Quid tum póstea ?

MEGARONIDES

Is homo éxornetur gráphice in peregrinúm modum,
Quasi ád adulescentem á patre ex Seleúcia
Veniát : salutem ei núntiet uerbís patris :
Illúm bene gerere rem ét ualere et uíuere :
Et eúm rediturum actútum. ferit epístulas
Duas : eás nos consignémus, quasi sint á patre.
Det álteram illic, álteram dicát tibi
Dare sése uelle.

CALLICLES

Pérgo porro dícere.

MEGARONIDES

Seque aúrum ferre uírgini dotem á patre
Dicát, patremque id iússisse aurum tíbi dare.
Tenés iam ?

CALLICLES

Propemodo, átque ausculto pérlubens.

MEGARONIDES

Tum tu ígitur demus ádulescenti aurúm dabis,
Vbi erít locata uírgo in matrimónium.

CALLICLES

Scite hércle sane.

MEGARONIDES

Hoc, úbi thensaurum effóderis,
Suspítionem ab ádulescente amóueris.
Censébit aurum esse á patre adlatúm tibi :
Tu dé thensauro súmes,

Ca. Let's hear it.

Me. Let's hire, as soon as possible, some fellow of an unusual aspect, not commonly seen here. He must be some mendacious fellow, * * * * an impudent imposter.

Ca. And what then?

Me. Let the fellow be cleverly dressed up in foreign style as if he had come to our young man from his father at Seleucia, and salute him in his father's name, saying that he is alive, well and prospering, and is on the point of returning. And have him bring two letters, which we will have sealed as though from his father; have him give one to him and say that he desires to give the other to you.

Ca. Go on, tell me more.

Me. Have him say that he is bringing gold as a dowry to the young woman from her father, and that the father bade him deliver it to you. Do you get the point yet?

Ca. Pretty nearly, and I am listening with great interest.

Me. Then, accordingly, at last, when the girl has been married, you will give the young man the gold for her.

Ca. Very cleverly planned, I confess.

Me. By this means you will arouse no suspicion in the mind of the young man when you dig up the money. He will suppose that the gold was brought to you from his father, while you will take it from the hoard.

CALLICLES

Satis scite ét probe :
Quamquam hóc me aetatis sýcophantarí pudet.
Sed epístulas quando ópsignatas ádferet,
Non árbitraris túm adulescentem ánuli
Patérni signum nóuisse ?

MEGARONIDES

Etiam tú taces ?
Sescéntae ad eam rem caúsae possunt cónligi.
Illúm quem ante habuit pérdidit, fecít nouom.
Iam si ópsignatas nón feret, dici hóc potest,
Apud pórtitores eás resignatás sibi
Inspéctasque esse. in húius modi negótio
Diém sermone térere segnitiés merast :
Quamuís seremones póssunt longi téxier.
Abi ád thensaurum iám confestim clánculum :
Seruós, ancillas ámoue : atque audín ?

CALLICLES

Quid est ?

MEGARONIDES

Vxórem quoque eampse hánc rem uti celés face :
Nam pól tacere númquam quicquamst quód queant.
Quid núnc stas ? quin tu hinc te ámoues et té moues ?
Aperí, deprome inde aúri ad hanc rem quód sat est :
Contínuod operi dénuo : sed clánculum,
Sicút praecepi : cúnctos exturba aédibus.

CALLICLES

Ita fáciam.

MEGARONIDES

Enim nimis lóngo sermone útimur :
Diém conficimus quód iam properatóst opus.
Nihil ést de signo quód uereare : mé uide.
Lepidást illa causa, ut cónmemoraui, dícere
Apud pórtitores ésse inspectas. dénique
Diéi tempus nón uides ? quid illúm putas
Natúra illa atque ingénio ? iam dudum ébriust :

Ca. Quite cleverly and skillfully planned; although I am ashamed, at my time of life, to play a double part. But when he brings the letters sealed do you not suppose that the young man will know his father's signet?

Me. Oh, nonsense! A thousand explanations can be suggested. For example, he has lost the old one and had a new one made. And then, if he should bring them not sealed, he could say that they were opened and inspected by the Customs officers. It's mere waste of time to spend the day talking over difficulties of this kind. We could indulge in discussions without end. Go to the hoard now secretly at once. Send away your servants, male and female, and—do you hear?

Ca. What?

Me. See that you conceal this matter from that wife of yours as well, for, deuce take it! there is not a thing about which she can ever hold her tongue. Why are you standing now? Why are you not off and stirring? Open up the treasure, take from it gold sufficient for this purpose, and at once cover it up again; but all in secret. As I have admonished you, bundle them all out of the house.

Ca. I'll do it.

Me. But come now, we are talking too long. We are wasting the day while there is need of haste. Have no fear about the seal. Leave that to me. That's a capital excuse to give as I have said, viz.: That the letters were inspected by the Customs officers. Besides, do you not see the time of day? In what state do you imagine that a man of his nature and disposition is? He's been drunk now for some time. He will be satisfied with

Quiduís probari ei póterit. tum, quod máxumist,
Adférre, non se pétere hinc dicet.

CALLICLES

Iám sat est.

MEGARONIDES

Ego sýcophantam iám conduco dé foro, . 815
[Epístulasque iám consignabó duas:]
Eumque húc ad adulescéntem meditatúm probe
Mittam.

CALLICLES

Éo ego ergo igitur íntro ad officiúm meum.
Tu istúc age.

MEGARONIDES

Actum réddam nugacíssume.

any explanation whatsoever. And then—a point of the greatest importance—the sharper will say that he is *bringing* money, not seeking it.

CA. Well, that's enough.

ME. I will at once hire a sharper from the forum and then seal the two letters and send him here to the young man well drilled.

CA. I'll go in then and look after my part; you attend to that.

ME. I'll see that it is managed in the shrewdest manner.

ACTVS IV

CHARMIDES

Sálipotenti múltipotenti Ióuis fratri aethereí Neptuno
Lagus lubens laudés ago gratas grátisque habeo et flúctibus salsis,
Quós penes mei fuít potestas, bónis mis quid foret ét meae uitae
Quóm suis me ex locís in patriam urbem úsque columem réducem faciunt.
Átque tibi ego, Neptúne, ante alios deós gratis ago atque hábeo summas.
Nám te omnes saeuómque seuerumque, áuidis moribús commemorant,
Spúrcificum, inmanem, íntolerandum, uésanum: ego contra ópera expertus.
Nám pol placidum te ét clementem eo usqué modo, ut uolui, usús sum in alto.
Átque tuam hanc apud hómines gloriam aúribus iam accéperam ante:
Paúperibus te párcere solitum, dítes damnare átque domare
Ábi, laudo: scis órdine, ut aequomst, tráctare homines hoc dis dignumst:
[Semper mendicis modesti sint * * nobilis apud homines]
Fídus fuisti: infídum esse iterant. nam ápsque foret te, sát scio in alto
Dístraxissent dísque tulissent sátellites tui míserum foede,
Bónaque item omnia úna mecum pássim caeruleós per campos: —
Íta iam quasi canés, haud secus circúmstant nauem túrbine uenti:
Ímbres fluctusque átque procellae infénsae fremere frángere malum,
Rúere antemnas, scíndere uela: — ní pax propitiá foret praesto,

ACT IV

SCENE I

(*Enter* CHARMIDES, *just arrived from the Piraeus.*)

CH. To Neptune, mighty ruler of the sea,
And brother of Etherial Jove, with joy
And pleasure give I grateful praise; and I
Do also feel the liveliest gratitude
To those wild, briny billows, in whose power
Was cast the hazard of my goods and life,
Since from their kingdom to my native town
They bring me back unharmed. Neptune, to thee,
Before all other gods, the greatest thanks
I give and feel. While all declare that thou
Art cruel, stern, and fierce to swallow up,
Filthy, intolerable, inhuman, mad,
My own experience hath been different.
As I have wished, so I upon the deep
Have always found thee calm and mild. This, too,
Much to thy credit among men I've heard:
That thou art wont to spare the poor, the rich
Bring down in pride, and make to suffer loss.
I'm satisfied, I praise thee, thou know'st how
According to condition men to treat
As it is just. This, too, is worthy gods:
Always to be consi lerate to the poor,
But otherwise to men of high repute.
Thou hast been faithful, though men keep declaring
That thou art treacherous. Without thy aid,
Thy minion storms had torn my wretched form
To shreds, and with it all my goods as well
Had scattered wide o'er ocean's azure waste.
Like howling dogs the winds in whirling rage
Sweep round the ship, storms, billows, hostile blasts
Bellow, and shiver the mast, break down the yards,
And rend the sails;—all this, even now, had not

Ápage a me sis: dehínc iam certumst ótio dare me: sátis partum habeo,
Quíbus aerumnis déluctaui, fílio dum diuítias quaero.
Séd quis hic est, qui in práteam ingreditur cúm nouo ornatú specieque? 840
Pól quamquam domi cúpio, opperiar: quam híc rem agat, simul ánimum aduortam.

SYCOPHANTA. CHARMIDES

SYCOPHANTA

Huíc ego die nomén Trinummo fácio: nam ego operám meam
Tríbus nummis hodié locaui ad ártis naugatórias.
Áduenio ex Seleúcia, Macédonia, Asia atque Árabia, 845
Quás ego neque oculís neque pedibus úmquam usurpauí meis.
Víden egestas quíd negoti dát homini miseró mali?
Quín ego nunc subigór trium nummum caúsa, ut hasce epistulas
Dícam ab eo homine me áccepisse, quem égo qui sit homo néscio,
Néque noni neque nátus necne fúerit, id solidé scio. 850

CHARMIDES

Pól hic quidem fungíno generest: cápite se totúm tegit.
Hílurica faciés uidetur hóminis: eo ornatu áduenit.

SYCOPHANTA

Ílle qui me condúxit, ubi condúxit, abduxít domum:
Quaé uoluit, mihi díxit, docuit ét praemonstravít prius,
Quómodo quidque agerém. nunc adeo sí quid ego addidero ámplius, 855
Eó conductor mélius de me nógas conciliáuerit.
Út ille me exornáuit, ita sum ornátus: argentum hóc facit:
Ípse ornamenta á chorago haec súmpsit suo perículo.
Núnc ego si potero órnamentis hóminem circumdúcere,
Dábo operam, ut me esse ípsum plane sycophantam séntiat. 860

CHARMIDES

Quám magis specto, mínus placet mihi hóminis facies. míra sunt,
Ni íllic homost aut dórmitator aút sector zonárius.
Lóca contemplat, círcumspectat sése atque aedis nóscitat:
Crédo edepol quo móx furatum uéniat, speculatúr loca.

Thy favor been propitiously at hand.
Away, thou sea! henceforth I am resolved
To give myself to peaceful rest; for I
Have, by the troubles I have wrestled with
While seeking riches for my son, secured
Sufficient for myself. (*Enter* SYCOPHANTA *in foreign costume with a very large hat.*)
But who is this
Entering the street with foreign garb and mien?
By Jove! though I do long to be at home,
I'll wait, and see what this strange fellow's at.

SCENE II

SYCOPHANTA *and* CHARMIDES

SY. (*Not seeing Charmides.*) To this day I give the name of Trinummus (*Three Pieces*), because I have to-day let out my services in a swindling scheme for three pieces of money. I have just arrived from Seleucia, Macedonia, Asia and Arabia, places on which I have never set eye nor foot. See, will you, to what business poverty brings a poor fellow. Why, I am now even obliged, for three pieces of money, to say that I have received these letters from a man of whom I am ignorant. I not only do not know him, but do not know of a certainty that such a man was ever born.

CH. (*Aside.*) My stars! this fellow belongs to the mushroom family. He's all head. His countenance seems to be of the Illyrian type and his dress as well.

SY. My employer when he hired me took me to his house. He told me what he wanted of me, taught and pointed out to me in advance how I was to do everything. Now if I myself shall add more, my employer will get more trickery out of me than he bargained for. I am dressed just as he got me up. It's money that does this. He obtained my costume from the costumer at his own risk. Now if I can cheat him out of the costume, I'll convince him that, without his training, I am something of a trickster myself.

CH. (*Aside.*) The more I look at him, the less does the appearance of the fellow please me. It's very strange if he is not either a trickster or a cutpurse. He is viewing the locality, he is looking about him and examining the house. I am confident he is exploring the place so as to come shortly and steal. I feel

Mágis lubidost ópseruare quíd agat: ei rei operám dabo.

SYCOPHANTA

Hás regiones démonstrauit míhi ille conductór meus:
Ápud illas aedís sistendaé míhi sycophántiae.
Fóres pultabo.

CHARMIDES

Ad nóstras aedis híc quidem habet rectám uiam:
Hércle opinor mi áduenienti hac nóctu agitandumst uígilias.

SYCOPHANTA

Áperite hoc, aperíte. heus, ecquis his fóribus tutelám gerit?

CHARMIDES

Quíd, adulescens, quaéris? quid uis? quíd istas pultas?

SYCOPHANTA

Heús, senex,
Lésbonicum hinc ádulescentem quaéro in his regiónibus
Vbi habitet, et item álterum ad istanc cápitis albitúdinem,
Cálliclem quem aibát uocari, qui hás mihi dedit epístulas.

CHARMIDES

Meúm gnatum hic quidem Lésbonicum quaérit et amicúm meum
Quoí ego liberósque bonaque cónmendaui, Cálliclem.

SYCOPHANTA

Fác me, si scis, cértiorem, hisce hómines ubí habitént, pater.

CHARMIDES

Quíd eos quaeris? aút quis es? aut únde es? aut unde áduenis?

SYCOPHANTA

Cénsus quom sum, iúratori récte rationém dedi.

CHARMIDES

* * * * * * *

SYCOPHANTA

Múlta simul rogás: nescio quid éxpediam postíssumum.
Si únum quidquid síngillatim et plácide percontábere,
Ét meum nomen ét mea facta et ítinera ego faxó scias.

CHARMIDES

Fáciam ita ut uis. ágedum, nomen prímum memora tuóm mihi.

even more inclined to watch his actions.. I'll give this thing my attention.

Sy. This is the place that my employer pointed out to me. At this house my game is to be played. I'll knock at the door.

Ch. (*Aside.*) Why, he's going straight to my house. By heavens, I guess I'll have to keep watch to-night although just arrived.

Sy. (*Knocks at the door of Charmides' house.*) Open this door! Open! Hello! Where's the porter?

Ch. What are you looking for, young man? What do you want? Why are you knocking at that door?

Sy. Hello there, old man. I am looking for a young man, Lesbonicus, to find his place of residence hereabouts, and also for another man about as white-headed as you. The man who gave me these letters said that his name is Callicles.

Ch. (*Aside.*) He is evidently looking for my son, Lesbonicus, and my friend Callicles, to whom I committed my children and my property.

Sy. Inform me if you can, father, where these parties live?

Ch What do you want of them? Or who are you? Or where are you from? Or whence do you come?

Sy. When questioned by the censor's officer I gave the correct return.

Ch. * * * * * * *

Sy. You ask many questions at once. I don't know which to answer first. If you will ask them all, one at a time and without getting excited, I'll tell you my name, my business and my travels.

Ch. I will do as you wish. Come then, first, tell me your name.

SYCOPHANTA

Mágnum facinus íncipissis pétere.

CHARMIDES

Quid ita?

SYCOPHANTA

Quía, pater,
Si ánte lucem ire hércle occipias á meo primo nómine,
Cóncubium sit nóctis, priusquam ad póstremum peruéneris.

CHARMIDES

Ópus factost uiático ad tuom nómen, ut tu praédicas.

SYCOPHANTA

Ést minusculum álterum, quasi uésculum uinárium.

CHARMIDES

Quíd istuc est nomén, adulescens?

SYCOPHANTA

'Páx' id est nomén mihi:
Hóc contidiánumst.

CHARMIDES

Edepol nómen nugatórium:
Quási dicas, si quíd crediderim tíbi, 'pax' periisse ílico.
Híc homo solide sýcophantast. quíd ais tu, adulescéns?

SYCOPHANTA

Quid est?

CHARMIDES

Éloquere, isti tíbi quid homines débent, quos tu quaéritas?

SYCOPHANTA

Páter istius ádulescentis dédit has duas mi epístulas,
Lésbonici: is mi ést amicus.

CHARMIDES

Téneo hunc manufestárium:
Mé sibi epistulás dedisse dícit. ludam hominém probe.
* * * * * *

SYCOPHANTA

Íta ut occepi, si ánimum aduortas, dícam.

CHARMIDES

Dabo operám tibi.

Sy. You have entered upon a large undertaking.

Ch. Why so?

Sy. Because, father, if you should begin before daylight at the first part of my name, night would overtake you before you came to the end of it.

Ch. According to your story one would need provisions for the journey in compassing your name.

Sy. I have another little name like a small wine flask.

Ch. What is your name, young man?

Sy. Pax; that's my name. That's my every day name.

Ch. Egad, a tricky name! As if you should say when I had entrusted something to you, pax! it instantly disappears. (*Aside.*) This fellow is an out and out scamp. (*To* Sy.) I say, young man ——

Sy. Well.

Ch. Tell me what those men whom you were inquiring for have to do with you.

Sy. The father of that young man, Lesbonicus, gave these two letters to me. He's my friend.

Ch. (*Aside.*) I have him now unmasked. He says I gave him letters. I'll have fine sport with him.

* * * * * * * *

Sy. I'll proceed as I began, if you'll give attention.

Ch. I will attend,

SYCOPHANTA

Hánc me iussit Lésbonico dáre suo gnato epístulam,
Ét item hanc alterám suo amico Cállici iussít dare.

CHARMIDES

Míhi quoque edepol, quom híc naugatur, cóntra naugarí lubet.

Vbi ipse erat?

SYCOPHANTA

Bene rém gerebat.

CHARMIDES

Érgo ubi?

SYCOPHANTA

In Seleúcia.

CHARMIDES

* * * * * *

Áb ipson' istas áccepisti?

SYCOPHANTA

E mánibus dedit ipse ín manus.

CHARMIDES

Quá faciest homó?

SYCOPHANTA

Sesquipede quídamst quam tu lóngior.

CHARMIDES

Haéret haec res, síquidem ego apsens súm quam praesens lóngior.

Nóuistin' hominém?

SYCOPHANTA

Ridicule rógitas, quocum uná cibum
Cápere soleo.

CHARMIDES

Quíd eist nomen?

SYCOPHANTA

Quód edepol hominí probo

CHARMIDES

Lúbet audire.

Sy. He bade me give this letter to his own son, Lesbonicus, and the other to his friend, Callicles.

Ch. (*Aside.*) By heavens, seeing he is an imposter, I think I'll do a little cheating in return. (*To* Sy.) Where was he?

Sy. Carrying on a prosperous business.

Ch. But where?

Sy. In Seleucia.

Ch. * * * * * * *

You received these from him in person?

Sy. With his own hand he placed them in mine.

Ch. What is his personal appearance?

Sy. Taller than you by a foot and a half.

Ch. (*Aside.*) That's very strange if I am taller when away than when at home. (*To* Sy.) Are you aquainted with the gentleman?

Sy. What a ridiculous question, seeing I am in the habit of taking my meals with him.

Ch. What's his name?

Sy. The name, by Jove! of an honorable man.

Ch. I'd like to hear it.

SYCOPHANTA

Illi édepol — illi — illi — uae miseró mihi.

CHARMIDES

Quíd est negoti?

SYCOPHANTA

Déuoraui nómen inprudéns modo.

CHARMIDES

Nón placet, qui amícos intra déntes conclusós habet.

SYCOPHANTA

Átqui etiam modo uórsabatur mi ín labris primóribus.

CHARMIDES

Témperi huic hodie ánteueni.

SYCOPHANTA

Téneor manufestó miser.

CHARMIDES

Iám reconmentátu's nomen?

SYCOPHANTA

Deúm me hercle atque hominúm pudet.

CHARMIDES

Víde modo hominem ut nóueris.

SYCOPHANTA

Tam quám me. fieri istúc solet:
Quód in manu teneás atque oculis uídeas, id desíderes.
Lítteris recónminiscar: C ést principium nómini.

CHARMIDES

Cállias?

SYCOPHANTA

Non ést.

CHARMIDES

Callippus?

SYCOPHANTA

Nón est.

CHARMIDES

Callidémides?

SYCOPHANTA

Nón est.

Sy. His name, deuce take it!—his name—his name—I'll be confounded!

Ch. What's the matter?

Sy. Like a fool, I've just swallowed the name.

Ch. I don't think much of a man who keeps his friends shut up inside his teeth.

Sy. Why, just this moment I had the name on the very tip of my tongue.

Ch. (*Aside.*) Just in the nick of time I got here to-day ahead of this rascal.

Sy. (*Aside.*) Fool that I am! I'm plainly caught.

Ch. Have you yet recalled the name?

Sy. (*Aside.*) Heavens! but I'm in a shameful plight.

Ch. Just see how well you know the man.

Sy. As well as I know myself. But this is not an uncommon experience to miss the very thing you are holding in your hand or are looking at. I will recall the name by letters. C is the first letter.

Ch. Callias?

Sy. No.

Ch. Callippus?

Sy. No.

Ch. Callidemides?

Sy. No.

CHARMIDES

Callínicus ?

SYCOPHANTA

Non est.

CHARMIDES

Cállimarchus ?

SYCOPHANTA

Níl agis :
Néque adeo edepol flócci facio, quándo egomet meminí mihi.

CHARMIDES

Át enim multi Lésbonici súnt hic : nisi nomén patris
Díces, non possum ístos mostrare hómines, quos tu quaéritas.
Quód ad exemplumst? cóniectura sí reperire póssumus.

SYCOPHANTA

Ád hoc exemplumst : Chár.

CHARMIDES

Chares ? an Cháricles ? — numnam Chármides ?

SYCOPHANTA

Ém istic erat. qui istúm di perdant.

CHARMIDES

Díxi ego iam dudúm tibi :
* * * * *
Béne te potius dícere aequomst hómini amico quám male.

SYCOPHANTA

Sátin' inter labra átque dentes látuit uir minumí preti ?

CHARMIDES

Né male loquere apsénti amico.

SYCOPHANTA

Quíd ergo ille ignauíssumus
Mí latitabat ?

CHARMIDES

Si ádpellasses, réspondisset nómini.
Séd ipse ubist ?

SYCOPHANTA

Pol illúm reliqui ad Rhádamantem in Cercópia.

CH. Callinicus?

SY. No.

CH. Callimarchus?

SY. It's no use; and I'll be hanged if I care a fig about it, for I'll recall it in due time.

CH. But it's important, for there are many persons about here bearing the name of Lesbonicus, and unless you can tell the name of his father I cannot direct you to the persons whom you are seeking. What is the name like? We may be able to get it by guessing.

SY. It is like this: Char.

CH. Chares? or Charicles? It is'nt Charmides, is it?

SY. Ah, that's the man. May the gods confound him!

CH. I have already given you that name before.

* * * * * * * *

It is more fitting for you to speak well of a friend than ill.

SY. Why did the worthless fellow lie hid between my lips and teeth?

CH. Speak not ill of an absent friend.

SY. Why, then, did the lazy rascal try to hide himself from me?

CH. If you had called his name he would have answered. But where is he?

SY. Well, I left him at Rhadamas in Cercopia.

CHARMIDES

* * * * * *

Quís homost me insipiéntior, qui ipse, égomet ubi sim, quaéritem ?
Séd nil discondúcit huic rei. quíd ais ? quid hoc quod té rogo :
Quós locos adiísti ?

SYCOPHANTA

Nimium mírimodis mirábiles.

CHARMIDES

Lúbet audire, nísi molestumst.

SYCOPHANTA

Quín discupio dícere.
Ómnium primum in Póntum aduecti ad Árabiam terrám sumus.

CHARMIDES

Eho,
Án etiam Arabiást in Ponto ?

SYCOPHANTA

Est : nón illa, cubi tus gígnitur,
Séd ubi apsinthiúm fit atque cúnila gallínácea,

CHARMIDES

Nímium graphicùm núgatorem. [séd ego sum insipiéntior,
Qui, égomet unde rédeam, hunc rogitem, quae égo sciam atque hic nésciat] :
Nísi quia lubet éxperiri, quo éuasurust dénique.
Séd quid ais ? quo inde ísti porro ?

SYCOPHANTA

Si ánimum aduortas, éloquar
Ád caput amnis, quó ad e caelo exóritur sub solió Iouis.

CHARMIDES

Súb solio Iouís ?

SYCOPHANTA

Ita dico.

CHARMIDES

E caélo ?

SYCOPHANTA

Atque e medió quidem.

CH. * * * * * * *

(*Aside*) Who is so great a simpleton as I to be inquiring where I myself am. But nothing is out of place in this affair. (*To* SY.) Say! what do you say to this: what places have you visited?

SY. Places exceedingly and astonishingly wonderful.

CH. I would like to hear about them, if it's no trouble.

SY. Nay, I'm bursting to tell you. First of all, going to Pontus, we came to the land of Arabia.

CH. What! do you mean to say that Arabia is in Pontus?

SY. Yes: not that Arabia where frankincense is produced, but where wormwood and wild marjoram are found.

CH. (*Aside.*) A very exquisite rascal this. But I am too great a simpleton to be asking this fellow from what place I am myself returned, a fact known to me but not to him; only that I want to see where he will end at last. (*To* SY.) Well, where did you go next?

SY. Listen and I'll tell you. We went to the source of the river that rises in heaven beneath the throne of Jove.

CH. Be eath the throne of Jove?

SY. Certainly.

CH. Flows out of heaven?

SY. Yes; out of the very midst.

CHARMIDES

Eho,
Án etiam in caelum éscendisti ?

SYCOPHANTA

Immo hóriola aduectí sumus
Vsque aqua aduorsá per amnem.

CHARMIDES

Eho, an tu étiam uidistí Iouem ?

SYCOPHANTA

Éum alii di isse ád uillam aibant séruis depromptúm cíbum.
Deínde porro —

CHARMIDES

Deínde porro nólo quicquam praédices.

SYCOPHANTA

Táceo ego hercle, si ést molestum.

CHARMIDES

Nám pudicum neminem
Députare opórtet, qui aps terra ád caelum peruénerit.

SYCOPHANTA

Fáciam ita ut te uélle uideo. séd mostra hosce hominís mihi,
Quós ego quaero, quíbus me oporet hás deferre epístulas.

CHARMIDES

Quíd ais ? tu nunc sí forte eumpse Chármidem conspéxeris
Íllum quem tibi istás dedisse cónmemoras epístulas,
Nóuerisne hominém ?

SYCOPHANTA

Ne tu edepol me árbitrare béluam,
Quí quidem non nouisse possim, quícum aetatem exégerim.
Án ille tam esset stúltus, qui mi mílle nummum créderet
Phílippum, quod me aurúm deferre iússit ad gnatúm suom
Átque ad amicum Cálliclem, quoi rem aíbat mandasse híc suam ?
Míhin concrederét, ni me ille et égo illum nouissem ádprobe ?

CHARMIDES

Énim uero ego nunc sycophantae huic sycophantarí uolo,
Si húnc possum illo mílle nummum Phílippum circumdúcere,
Quód sibi me dedísse dixit. quem égo qui sit homo néscio,

CH. What! do you mean that you ascended to heaven?

SY. Yes; that is, we sailed in a small skiff on the river, up the stream.

CH. Oho! and you even saw Jove?

SY The other gods said that he had gone to his estate to distribute rations to his slaves. Then after that— —

CH. Then after that—I want to hear no more from you.

SY. I'll say no more if it annoys you.

CH. For no one can be considered a man of honor who claims to have visited heaven.

SY. I will do as I see you wish. But show me those men for whom I'm looking and to whom I must give these letters.

CH. Say! if you should chance to see Charmides himself, who, you say, gave you those letters, would you recognize him?

SY. Good gracious! you take me for a blockhead, not to know the man with whom I have been living. Would he be so foolish as to entrust to me a thousand gold philippeans which he commissioned me to bring to his son and to his friend Callicles, to whom he said he had confided his property,—would he thus trust me if he did not know me well, and I him?

CH (*Aside.*) I would really like to swindle this swindler, if I could cheat him out of those thousand philippeans which he says I gave him. Would I entrust money to a perfect stranger on whom

Néque oculis ante húnc diem unquam uídi, eine aurum créderem ?
Quoí, si capitis rés sit, nummúm núquam credam plúmbeum.
Ádgrediundust híc homo mi astu. heus, Páx, te tribus uerbís uolo.

SYCOPHANTA

Vél trecentis.

CHARMIDES

Háben tu id aurum, quód accepisti a Chármide ?

SYCOPHANTA

Átque etiam Philippúm, numeratum illíus in mensá manu, 965
Mílle nummum.

CHARMIDES

Némpe ab ipso id áccepisti Chármide ?

SYCOPHANTA

Mírum quin ab auo éius aut proauo accíperem, qui sunt mórtui.

CHARMIDES

Ádulescens, cedodum istuc aurum míhi.

SYCOPHANTA

Quod ego dem aurúm tibi ?

CHARMIDES

Quód te a me accepísse fassu's.

SYCOPHANTA

Aps te accepisse ?

CHARMIDES

Íta loquor.

SYCOPHANTA

Quís tu homo's?

CHARMIDES

Qui mílle nummum tíbi dedi, ego sum Chármides. 970

SYCOPHANTA

Néque edepol tu is és neque hodie is umquam eris — auro huíc quidem
Ábi sis, nugatór: nugari núgatori póstulas.

I never set eyes till this day? If my life depended on it I would not trust him with money even made of lead I must deal with him adroitly (*To* Sy.) Hello, Pax, a few words with you.

Sy. Many if you like.

Ch. Have you that gold which you received from Charmides?

Sy. Yes sir, a thousand philippeans counted on the table with his own hand.

Ch. You say that you received it from Charmides in person?

Sy. It would be strange if I received it from his father or grandfather who are dead.

Ch. Young man, hand over that gold to me.

Sy. Hand over what gold?

Ch. That which you acknowledged you received from me.

Sy. Received from *you?*

Ch. That is what I say.

Sy. And who in the world are you?

Ch. I am Charmides who gave you the thousand pieces of money.

Sy. By heavens, you are not he and you never will be he to-day—at least so far as the gold is concerned. Get out, you cheat! you are trying to trick a trickster.

CHARMIDES

Chármides ego súm.

SYCOPHANTA

Nequiquam hercle és: nam nihil aurí fero.
Nímis argute me óbrepsisti in eápse occasiúncula.
Pósquam ego me aurum férre dixi, pós tu factu's Chármides:
Príus non tu is eras, quam aúri feci méntionem níl agis.
Proín tute itidem ut chármidatu's, rúrsum te dechármida.

CHARMIDES

Quís ego sum igitur, síquidem is non sum, quí sum?

SYCOPHANTA

Quid id ad me áttinet?
Dum ílle ne sis, quem égo esse nolo, sís mea causa quí lubet.
[Príus non is eras quí eras, nunc is fáctu's qui tum nón eras.]

CHARMIDES

Áge siquid agis

SYCOPHANTA

Quíd ego agam?

CHARMIDES

Aurum rédde.

SYCOPHANTA

Dormitás, senex.

CHARMIDES

Fássu's Charmidém dedisse aurúm tibi.

SYCOPHANTA

Scriptúm quidem.

CHARMIDES

Próperas an non próperas ire actútum ab his regiónibus,
Dórmitator, príusquam ego hic te iúbeo mulcarí male?

SYCOPHANTA

Quam ób rem?

CHARMIDES

Quia illum quem éméntitu's, ís ego sum ipsus Chármides,
Quém tibi epistulás dedisse aiébas.

SYCOPHANTA

Eho, quaeso án tu is es?

CH. I am Charmides.

SY. By Jove, you are he to no purpose, for I bring no gold. Very cleverly you have crept upon me in the very nick of time. After I said that I was bringing gold, then you became Charmides; but you were not he before I made mention of the gold. It won't work. Just as you have Charmidised yourself, so again uncharmidise yourself.

CH. Who am I then seeing I am not he who I am?

SY. What's that to me? Provided you are not the man I wish you not to be you can be whoever you like for all I care. Before you were not who you were; now you have become who then you were not.

CH. Come, if you are going to do anything, do it.

SY. What shall I do?

CH. Give me back the gold.

SY. You're dreaming, old man.

CH. You have acknowledged that Charmides gave you the gold.

SY. Yes, on paper.

CH. Swindler, will you or will you not leave this place instantly, before I order you soundly thrashed?

SY. Why so?

CH. Because I am the very Charmides about whom you have been lying and who you said gave you letters.

SY. Oho! Are you really he?

CHARMIDES

Ís enim uero sum

SYCOPHANTA

Aín tu tandem ? is ípsusne's ?

CHARMIDES

Aio.

SYCOPHANTA

Ípsus es ?

CHARMIDES

Ípsus, inquam, Chármides sum.

SYCOPHANTA

Ergo ípsusne's ?

CHARMIDES

Ipsíssumus.

Ábin hinc ab oculís ?

SYCOPHANTA

Enim uero séro quoniam huc áduenis,
Vápulabis meo árbitratud ét nouorum aedílium.

CHARMIDES

Át etiam maledícis ?

SYCOPHANTA

Immo sáluos quando equidem áduenis,
Dí me perdant sí te flocci fácio an periissés prius.
Égo ob hanc operam argéntum accepi: té macto infortúnio.
Céterum qui sís, qui non sis, cíccum non intérduim.
Íbo, ad illum renúntiabo quí mihi tris nummós dedit,
Ví sciat se pérdidisse. ego ábeo. male uiue ét uale:
Quí te di omnes áduenientem péregre perdant, Chármides.

CHARMIDES

Postquam ílle hinc abiit, póst loquendi líbere
Vidétur tempus uénisse atque occásio.
Iam dúdum meum ille péctus pungit áculeus,
Quid illí negoti fúerit ante aedís meas.
Nam epístulae illae míhi concenturiánt metum
In córde et illud mílle nummum, quám rem agant.
Numquam édepol temere tínnit tintinnábulum.
[Nisi íllud tractat aút mouet, mutumst, tacet.]

CH. To be sure, I am he.

SY. Do you say so? he himself?

CH. Yes.

SY. Are you he himself?

CH. I say I am Charmides himself.

SY. Are you then his own self?

CH. His own very self. Will you get out of my sight?

SY. Well now, really, since you have arrived late, you shall be flogged, by my verdict and that of the new aediles.

CH. What, abusing me!

SY. Nay, seeing that you have arrived in safety, the deuce take me if I care a straw if you had perished first. I've got my money for this job. My curse on you! It's no concern of mine who you are or who you are not. I'll go and tell my employer that he has wasted his three pieces of money. I'm off Bad luck to you! May all the gods confound you, Charmides, for coming from abroad. (*Exit.*)

CH. Now, that he is gone the time and opportunity seem to have come for speaking freely. Just now my mind is pained with sharp anxiety to know what this business before my house means. For that letter marshalls in my heart an army of fears, and that thousand pieces of money too, and the meaning of it all. For a bell surely never rings for nothing. It is silent, it is still, unless some one handles it or moves it.

Sed quís hic est, qui huc in pláteam cursuram íncipit?
Lubet ópseruare quíd agat: huc concéssero.

STASIMVS. CHARMIDES

STASIMVS

Stásime, fac te própere celerem, récipe te ad dominúm domum,
Né subito malum éxoriatur scápulis stultitiá tua.
Ádde gradum, adproperá: iam dudum táctumst, quom abiistí domo.
Cáue sis tibi, ne búbuli in te cóttabi crebrí crepent,
Si áberis ab eri quaéstione. né destiteris cúrrere.
Écce hominem te, Stásime, nihili: sátin' in thermopólio
Cóndalium es oblítus, postquam thérmopotasti gútturem?
Récipe te et recúrre petere ré recenti.

CHARMIDES

Huic quísquis est,
Gúrguliost exércitor: is hóminem cursurám docet.

STASIMVS

Quíd, homo nihili, nón pudet te? tríbusne te potériis
Mémoriae esse oblítum? an uero, quía cum frugi homónibus
Íbi bibisti qui áb alieno fácile cohiberént manus,
Ínter eosne hominés condalium té redipsci póstulas?
Chíruchus fuit, Cérconicus, Crinus, Cricolabus, Cóllabus,
Cóllicrepidae, crúricrepidae, férriteri, mastígiae:
Quórum hercle unus, súrrupiat currénti cursorí solum.

CHARMIDES

Íta me di ament, gráphicum furem.

STASIMVS

Quíd ego quod periít petam?
Nísi etiam labórem ad damnum adpó iam ἐπιδήκην ínsuper.
Quín tu, quod periít, periisse dúcis? cape uorsóriam:
Récipe te ad erum.

CHARMIDES

Nón fugitiuost híc homo: conmeminít domi.

STASIMVS

Vtinam ueteres uéterum mores, uéteres parsimóniae
Pótius in maióre honore hic éssent quam morés mali.

(*Enter* STASIMUS *somewhat intoxicated.*)

But who is this that comes running this way along the street? I have a mind to observe what he is about. I will step aside here.

SCENE III

ST. Stasimus, make haste with all speed, run home to your master, lest for your folly, fears for your back will suddenly arise. Hurry up, quicken your pace. It's a long time since you left home. If you are absent when your master inquires for you, look out if the rawhide doesn't clatter on your back like hailstones. Don't stop running. (*Stopping and looking at his hand.*) Hold on, Stasimus, you good-for-nothing fellow! Didn't you forget your ring in the saloon after washing your throat with something hot? Run back and look for it before it's too late.

CH. (*Aside.*) Whoever this fellow is his throat is his trainer, and teaches him the art of running.

ST. What, worthless fellow, ar'n't you ashamed of yourself? To have lost your memory after three glasses! Is it, to be sure, because you drank there with honest fellows, who easily keep their hands off from other people's property; among men like these do you hope to recover your ring?—There was Chiruchus (Close-fist), Cerconicus (Cocktail), Crinus (Catch-crumb), Cricolabus (Crib-ring), Collabus (Cakeling), clatter-necks, clatter-shins, fetter-galls and whipped-knaves—men, any one of whom, I swear, could steal the sole from the shoe of a racer?

CH. (*Aside.*) Ye saints, an exquisite thief!

ST. Why look for what's gone forever? I'd simply add, besides, the loss of my labor. Why not conclude that what's lost is lost? About ship! and be off to your master.

CH. (*Aside.*) This fellow is no runaway. He remembers his home.

ST. Would that the old-fashioned virtues of former men and the old-time thrift were more honored here than the evil morals of these days.

CHARMIDES

Di ínmortales, básilica hic quidem fácinora inceptát loqui.
Vétera quaerit, uétera amare hunc móre maiorúm scias.

STASIMVS

Nám nunc homines níhili faciunt quód licet, nisi quód lubet.
Ámbitio iam móre sanctast, líberast a légibus.
Scúta iacere fúgereque hostis móre habent licéntiam:
Pétere honorem pró flagitio móre fit.

CHARMIDES

Morem ínprobum.

STASIMVS

Strénuos nunc praéterire móre fit.

CHARMIDES

Nequám quidem.

STASIMVS

Móres leges pérduxerunt iam ín potestatém suam,
Mágis quis sunt obnóxiosae quám parentes líberis.
Eaé misere etiam ad párietem sunt fíxae clauis férreis,
Vbi malos morés adfigi nímio fuerat aéquius.

CHARMIDES

Lúbet adire atque ádpellare hunc: uérum ausculto pérlubens,
Ét metuo, si conpellabo, ne áliam rem occipiát loqui.

(STASIMVS

Néque istis quicquam lége sanctumst. léges mori séruiunt,
Móres autem rápere properant quá sacrum qua púplicum.

CHARMIDES

Hércle istis malám rem magnam móribus dignúmst dari.)

STASIMVS

Nón hoc puplice ánimaduorti? nam íd genus hominum hóminibus
Vniuorsis ést aduorsum atque ómni populo mále facit.
Mále fidem seruándo illis quoque ábrogant etiám fidem,
Quí nil meriti: quíppe eorum ex ingénio ingenium horúm probant.
Síquoi mutuóm quid dederis, fít pro proprio pérditum.
Quóm repetas, inimícum amícum inuénias benfició tuo.

CH. (*Aside.*) Immortal gods! he is beginning to speak of right royal reforms. He recalls the former times. You might know that he loves the good old times after the manner of his forefathers.

ST. For now-a-days men disregard what is proper unless it is agreeable to them. Political corruption is now sanctioned by custom and is freed from legal restraints Custom gives license to throw away your shield and to flee from an enemy. It has become customary to ask for public honors in return for a disgraceful act.

CH. (*Aside.*) A shameful custom!

ST. It's the usage now to neglect the brave.

CH. (*Aside.*) Surely an infamous custom!

ST. Public morals have the laws now in their power and keep them in more rigid subjection than children do their parents. The unhappy laws are fastened (crucified) to the walls with iron nails, where bad morals might be more properly hung.

CH. (*Aside.*) I would like to approach and speak to this fellow, but I am listening with much pleasure and I am afraid if I speak to him he will begin to talk of something else.

ST. And nothing is legally sacred in the eyes of these bad morals. Laws are subservient to them, and besides they are hastening to drag down whatever has a sacred or a public character.

CH. (*Aside.*) Without a doubt some severe punishment should be visited upon those bad morals.

ST. To think that this should not be punished by the State! For men of this class are public enemies, and are harmful to all the people. By violation of good faith they deprive of credit others also who do not merit distrust, because men judge them from the character of the worthless. If you loan a person anything it is lost as concerns your private interest in it. When you ask for it you find that by your favor you have changed your friend into an enemy. If you begin to press your claim you have

(Sí mage exigere occúpias, duarum rérum exoritur óptio :
Vél illud quod credíderis perdas, uél illum amicum amíseris.)
Hóc qui in mentem uénerit mi ? re ípsa modo commónitus sum.

CHARMIDES

Méus est hic quidem Stásimus seruos.

STASIMVS

Nam égo talentum mútuom
Quoí dederam, talénto inimicum mi émi, amicum uéndidi.
Séd ego sum insipiéntior, qui rébus curem puplicis
Pótius quam, id quod próxumumst, meo térgo tutelám geram.
Éo domum.

CHARMIDES

Heus tu, asta ilico. audi, heús tu.

STASIMVS

Non sto.

CHARMIDES

Té uolo.

STASIMVS

Quíd, si egomet te uélle nolo ?

CHARMIDES

Aha, nímium, Stasime, saéuiter.

STASIMVS

Émere meliust, quoi ínperes.

CHARMIDES

Pol ego émi atque argentúm dedi.
Séd si non dicto aúdiens est, quíd ago ?

STASIMVS

Da magnúm malum.

CHARMIDES

Béne mones : ita fácere certumst.

STASIMVS

Nísi quidem es obnóxius.

CHARMIDES

Sí bonust, obnóxius sum ; sín secust, faciam út mones.

your choice of two evils, namely, to lose either your money or your friend. If you should ask how this occurred to my mind, I would answer that I have just had it impressed on me by my own experience.

CH. (*Aside.*) This is, sure enough, my slave Stasimus.

ST. For the man to whom I loaned a talent, by means of that talent, I bought for an enemy and sold as a friend. But I am a great simpleton to be concerned for public morals rather than for that which comes nearer home—taking good care of my back. I'll be off home.

CH. Hello, there! Stop right where you are. Hear me. Hello, you!

ST. I won't stop.

CH. I want you.

ST. What if I don't want you to want me?

CH. Ah, Stasimus; you act very rudely.

ST. You'd better buy some one to order around.

CH. By heavens, I have bought him and paid my money for him. But if he refuses to obey what am I to do?

ST. Punish him severely.

CH. That's good advice, and I intend to follow it.

ST. Unless, of course, you are under obligations to him.

CH. If he is good, I am; if otherwise, I'll do as you advise.

STASIMVS

Quíd id ad me attinét, bonisne séruis tu utare án malis ?

CHARMIDES

Quía boni malíque in ea re párs tibist.

STASIMVS

Partem álteram
Tíbi permitto : illam álteram apud me, quód bonist, adpónito.

CHARMIDES

Sí eris meritus, fíet. respice húc ad me : ego sum Chármides.

STASIMVS

Hém, quis est qui méntionem homo hóminis fecit óptumi ?

CHARMIDES

Ípsus homo optumús.

STASIMVS

Mare, terra, caélum, di, uostrám fidem,
Sátin' ego oculis pláne uideo ? estne ípsus an non ést ? is est.
Cérte is est, is ést profecto. o mí ere exoptatíssume,
Sálue.

CHARMIDES

Salue, Stásime.

STASIMVS

Saluom té —

CHARMIDES

Scio et credó tibi.
Séd omitte alia : hoc míhi responde : líberi quid agúnt mei,
Quós reliqui hic fílium atque fíliam ?

STASIMVS

Viuónt, ualent.

CHARMIDES

Némpe uterque ?

STASIMVS

Vtérque.

CHARMIDES

Di me sáluom et seruatúm uolunt.
Cétera intus ótiosse pércontabor, quaé uolo.
Eámus intro: séquere.

STASIMVS

Quo tu té agis ?

St. What is it to me whether your slaves are good or bad?

Ch. Because you have a part in that "good or bad."

St. I'll give to you the other part; set down to me the good part.

Ch. If you deserve it I will. Look back at me. I am Charmides.

St. Ha! Who is making mention of that most worthy man?

Ch. That most worthy man himself.

St Seas, earth and skies! Ye gods in heaven! Do my eyes see clearly? Is it really he, or is it not? It is; surely it is he; there is no mistake. O, my ardently longed-for master, God bless you!

Ch. And you, Stasimus!

St. That you are safe——

Ch. I know what you would say, and do not doubt it. But pass over all else and tell me how my son and daughter are, whom I left here.

St. They are alive and well.

Ch. You mean both?

St. Both.

Ch. The gods have graciously brought me back safe and sound. What else I want to know I will ask you in the house at leisure Let us go in. Follow me.

St. Why, where are you going?

CHARMIDES

Quonam nísi domum ?

STASIMVS

Hícine nos habitáre censes ?

CHARMIDES

Vbinam ego alibi cénseam ?

STASIMVS

Iám —

CHARMIDES

Quid iam ?

STASIMVS

Non súnt nostrae aedis staéc.

CHARMIDES

Quid ego ex ted aúdio ? 1080

STASIMVS

Véndidit tuos gnátus aedis.

CHARMIDES

Périi.

STASIMVS

Praesentáriis

Árgenti minís numeratis.

CHARMIDES

Quót ?

STASIMVS

Quadraginta.

CHARMIDES

Óccidi.

Quís eas emit ?

STASIMVS

Cállicles, quoi tuám rem commendáueras :
Ís habitatum huc cónmigrauit nósque exturbauít foras.

CHARMIDES

Vbi nunc filiús meus habitat ?

STASIMVS

Híc in hoc postículo 1085

CHARMIDES

Mále disperii.

CH. Home, of course.

ST. Do you imagine that we live here?

CH. Where else should I suppose we live?

ST. Now——

CH. Now—what?

ST. That is not our house.

CH. What's that you say?

ST. Your son has sold the house.

CH. I'm ruined!

ST. For silver minæ paid down.

CH. How many?

ST. Forty.

CH. That ends me. Who bought it?

ST. Callicles, to whom you entrusted your affairs. He has moved here to live, and has turned us out.

CH. Where is my son now living?

ST. Here in this rear building.

CH. I am brought to ruin.

STASIMVS

Crédidi aegre tíbi id, ubi audissés, fore.

CHARMIDES

Égo miser summís aerumnis súm per maria máxuma
Véctus, capitalí periclo pér praedones plúrumos
Mé seruaui, saluos redii : núnc hic disperií miser
Própter eosdem, quorum causa fui hác aetate exércitus.
Ádimit animum mi aégritudo. Stásime, tene me.

STASIMVS

Vísne aquam
Tíbi petam ?

CHARMIDES

Res quom ánimam agebat, túm esse offusam opórtuit.

CALLICLES. CHARMIDES. STASIMVS

CALLICLES

Quid hoc híc clamoris aúdio ante aedís meas ?

CHARMIDES

O Cállicles, o Cállicles, o Cállicles,
Qualíne amico méa conmendauí bona !

CALLICLES

Probo ét fideli et fído et cum magná fide.
Et sálue et saluom te áduenisse gaúdeo.

* * * * * *
* * * * *
* * * * *

CHARMIDES

Credo, ómnia istaec sí ita sunt ut praédicas.
Sed quís istest tuos ornátus ?

CALLICLES

Ego dicám tibi.
Thensaúrum effodiebam íntus dotem fíliae
Tuae quaé daretur. séd intus narrabó tibi
Et hóc et alia : séquere.

CHARMIDES

Stasime !

STASIMVS

Em.

ST. I thought this would distress you when you heard it.

CH. I, wretched man, have traversed vast seas in the midst of the greatest perils, I have preserved my life in extreme danger through robbers on every side, in safety I have returned. Now here I am, miserably ruined through those very persons for whose sake I have been toiling at my time of life. Sorrow makes me faint. Support me, Stasimus. (*Falls half fainting into the arms of Stasimus.*

ST. Shall I bring water for you?

CH. When my property was breathing its last, water should have been poured on it.

SCENE IV

(*Enter* CALLICLES, *spade in hand.*)

CA. What noise is this I hear before my house?

CH. O Callicles! O Callicles! O Callicles! To what kind of a friend have I entrusted my property?

CA. To a true friend, faithful, trustworthy and of strict fidelity. I greet you, and am delighted to see you back in safety.

* * * * * *

CH. I do not doubt, if everything is as you say. But what means this dress of yours?

CA. I will tell you. I was digging up the treasure in there as a dowry for your daughter. But I will relate to you within this and other matters. Step in.

CH. Stasimus.

ST. Here.

CHARMIDES

Strénue

Curre ín Piraeum atque únum curriculúm face.
Vidébis iam illic náuem qua aduectí sumus.
Iubéto Sagariónem quae inperáuerim
Curáre ut efferántur, et tu itó simul.
Solútumst portitóri iam portórium:
Nihil ést morae. cito ámbula: actutúm redi.

STASIMVS

Illíc sum atque hic sum.

CALLICLES

Séquere tu hac me intró.

CHARMIDES

Sequor.

STASIMVS

Hic méo ero amicus sólus firmus réstitit:
Neque démutauit ánimum de firmá fide,
Quamquám labores múltos ob rem et líberos
Apséntis mei eri eum égo cepisse cénseo.
Sed hic únus, ut ego súspicor, seruát fidem.

Ch. Run quickly and without stopping to the Piraeus (*harbor*). You will see there the ship in which I came Tell Sagario to see that the things are brought as I ordered him, and you go with him. I have already paid the duty. With all speed; hurry up; return quickly.

St. I am there and back again.

Ca. Come with me into the house.

Ch. I attend you. (*Exeunt Callicles and Charmides.*)

St. This man alone has continued a steadfast friend to my master, and has not swerved from unshaken fidelity, although I think he has experienced much trouble on account of the property and the children of my absent master. But he alone, I believe, has been true to him.

ACTVS V

LYSITELES

Hic homóst hominum omnium praécipuos,
Voluptátibus gaudiisque ántepotens.
Ita cómmoda quae cupio éueniunt,
Quod agó, subit, adsecué sequitur:
Ita gaúdiis gaudia súppeditant.
Módo me Stasimus Lésbonici séruos conuenít domi:
Ís mihi dixit súom erum peregre huc áduenisse Chármidem.
Núnc mi is propere cónueniundust, út, quae cum eius fílio
Égi, ei rei fundús pater sit pótior. eo ego. séd fores
Haé sonitu suó moram mihi óbiciunt incómmode.

CAARMIDES. CALLICLES. LYSITELES

CHARMIDES

Néque fuit neque erít neque esse quemquam hóminem in terrad árbitror,
Quóius fides fidélitasque amícum erga aequiperét tuam.
Nam éxaedificauísset me, apsque té foret, ex hisce aédibus.

CALLICLES

Síquid amicum ergá bene feci aut cónsului fidéliter,
Nón uideor meruísse laudem, cúlpa caruisse árbitror.
Nám beneficium homóni proprium quód datur, prosúm perit:
Quód datum utendúmst, repetundi id cópiast, quandó uelis.

CHARMIDES

Ést ita ut tu dícis. sed ego hoc néqueo mirarí satis,
Eúm sororem déspondisse suam ín tam fortem fámiliam,
Lysiteli quidém Philtonis fílio.

LYSITELES

Enim me nóminat.

ACT V

SCENE I

(*Enter* LYSITELES.)

LY. Here stands the happiest man on earth, a King
In pleasure and delight. What I most wish
Turns out propituously, what I attempt
Yields to my hand, success attends me close.
So joys are heaped on joys in richest store.

Stasimus, the slave of Lesbonicus, just now came to my house and informed me that his master Charmides has arrived from abroad. Now I must meet him without delay, in order that the father may confirm with better authority, my arrangements with his son. I will go. But I hear some one opening the door. This unfortunately delays me.

SCENE II

(*Enter* CHARMIDES *and* CALLICLES *from the house.* LYSITELES *retires a little.*)

CH. There never has been, never shall be, nor is there now on earth, I think, any man whose fidelity and constancy to a friend is equal to yours; for had it not been for you my son would have turned me out of house and home.

CA. If in any respect I have served a friend or faithfully consulted his advantage, I deem myself not deserving praise but free from blame; for a gift bestowed on a man is beyond reclaim, but a loan can be recalled at will.

CH. It is as you say. But I am greatly surprised that he espoused his sister to one of so excellent a family, to Lysiteles, indeed, the son of Philto.

LY. (*Aside.*) He positively mentions my name.

CALLICLES

Fámiliam optumam óccupauit.

LYSITELES

Quíd ego cesso hos cónloqui?
Séd maneam etiam, opínor: namque hoc cómmodum orditúr loqui.

* * * * * *
* * * * * * *
* * * * * *

CHARMIDES

Váh.

CALLICLES

Quid est?

CHARMIDES

Oblítus intus dúdum tibi sum dícere:
Módo mi aduenienti nugator quídam occessit óbuiam,
Nímis pergraphicus sýcophanta. is mílle nummum se aúreum
Meó datu tibi férre et gnato Lésbonico aibát meo:
Quem égo nec qui esset nóueram neque úsquam conspexí prius.
Séd quid rides?

CALLICLES

Meo ádlegatu uénit, quasi qui aurúm mihí
Férret aps te, quód darem tuae gnátae dotem: ut fílius
Túos, quando illi a mé darem, esse adlátum id aps te créderet,
Neú qui rem ipsam pósset intellégere, thensaurum tuom
Mé esse penes, atque á me lege pópuli patrium pósceret.

CHARMIDES

Scíte edepol.

CALLICLES

Megarónides conmúnis hoc meus ét tuos
Béneuolens conméntust.

CHARMIDES

Quin conlaúdo consilium ét probo.

LYSITELES

Quíd ego ineptus, dúm sermonem uéreor interrúmpere,
Sólus sto nec, quód conatus sum ágere, ago? hominis cón-loquar.

CA. He has got into one of the best families.

LY. Why should I delay speaking to them? But I think I will wait awhile yet, for he is opportunely beginning to speak of this matter.

* * * * * *

CH. Ah!

CA. What is it?

CH. I forgot to tell you just now inside. Just as I was arriving a certain swindler met me—a most exquisite sharper. He said that he was bringing to you and my son Lesbonicus a thousand gold pieces which I had given him. I did not know him and had never before seen him. But why do you laugh?

CA. He came by my direction, as if he were bringing money from you for me to give as a dowry to your daughter, in order that your son, when I should give it to her from my own means, might think that it came from you, and might remain ignorant of the fact that your treasure was in my possession and might not demand it from me by law as his patrimony.

CH. A very clever scheme.

CA. Megaronides, our mutual friend devised the plan.

CH. Indeed I applaud and approve his device.

LY. (*Aside.*) Why should I, fearing to interrupt their conversation stand here alone like a simpleton, and not finish my business? I will speak to the men.

CHARMIDES

Quís hic est, qui huc ad nós incedit ?

LYSITELES

Chármidem socerúm suom
Lysiteles salútat.

CHARMIDES

Di dent tíbi, Lysiteles, quaé uelis.

CALLICLES

Nón ego sum dignús salutis ?

LYSITELES

Ímmo salue, Cállicles.
Húnc priorem aequomst me habere : túnica propior pálliost.

CALLICLES

Deós uolo consília uobis uóstra recte uórtere.

CHARMIDES

Fíliam meam tíbi desponsam esse aúdio.

LYSITELES

Nisi tú neuis.

CHARMIDES

Ímmo haud nolo.

LYSITELES

Spónden tu ergo tuám gnatam uxorém mihi ?

CHARMIDES

Spóndeo et mille aúri Philippum dótis.

LYSITELES

Dotem níl moror.

CHARMIDES

Si ílla tibi placét, placenda dós quoquest quam dát tibi.
Póstremo quod uís non duces, nísi illud quod non uís feres.

CALLICLES

Iús hic orat.

LYSITELES

Ínpetrabit te áduocato atque árbitro,
Istac lege fíliam tuam spónden mi uxorém dari ?

CH. Who is the person that is coming toward us?

LY. Lysiteles salutes his father-in-law, Charmides.

CH. Heaven bless you, Lysiteles!

CA. Am I not worthy of a salutation?

LY. Yes indeed; how do you do, Callicles. It is proper for me to give him the preference. The shirt is nearer one's person than the cloak.

CA. I pray the gods wisely to direct your plans.

CH. I learn that my daugther is betrothed to you.

LY. True, unless you object.

CH. Nay, I do not object.

LY. Do you then promise me your daughter for my wife?

CH. I do, and a thousand golden philippeans as a dowry.

LY. I care nothing for a dowry.

CH. If my daughter pleases you the dowry that she brings must also please you. In short, you shall not have that which you do want unless you take that which you do not want.

CA. His plea is just.

LY. He shall win his case by your advocacy and decision. On this condition do you promise me your daughter for my wife?

CHARMIDES

Spóndeo.

CALLICLES

Et ego spóndeo itidem.

LYSITELES

Oh, sáluete adfinés mei.

CHARMIDES

Atqui edepol sunt rés, quas propter tíbi tamen suscénsui.

LYSITELES

Quíd ego feci?

CHARMIDES

Meúm corrumpi quía perpessu's fílium.

LYSITELES

Si íd mea uoluntáte factumst, ést quod mihi suscénseas.

* * * * * * *

Séd sine me hoc aps te ínpetrare, quód uolo.

CHARMIDES

Quid id ést?

LYSITELES

Scies:

Síquid stulte fécit, ut ea míssa facias ómnia.
Quíd quassas capút?

CHARMIDES

Cruciatur cór mi et metuo.

LYSITELES

Quídnam id est?

CHARMIDES

Quóm ille itast ut eum ésse nolo, id crúcior: metuo, sí tibi
Dénegem quod me óras, ne me léuiorem erga té putes.
Nón grauabor: fáciam ita ut uis.

LYSITELES

Próbus es. eo, ut illum éuocem.

CHARMIDES

Míserumst male promérita, ut merita sínt, si ulcisci nón licet.

LYSITELES

Áperite hoc, aperíte propere et Lésbonicum, sí domist,
Éuocate forás: ita subitumst, quód eum conuentúm uolo.

CH. I promise her.

CA. And I also join in the promise.

LY. Heaven bless you, my kinsmen!

CH. And yet I declare to you, I have had reason to be angry with you.

LY. What have I done?

CH. You have suffered my son to become profligate.

LY. If this were done with my consent you would have reason to be angry with me.

* * * * * * * *

But grant me this one desire.

CH. What is that?

LY. Namely this: If he has acted foolishly, that you will condone all the past. Why do you shake your head?

CH. I am in sore distress and in fear.

LY. What do you mean?

CH. I am distressed because he is not what I would like him to be. I am in fear that you will think me rather inconsiderate of you if I refuse your request. I will not stand out; I will do as you desire.

LY. Thank you. I will go and call him out.

CH. It's a pity that one cannot punish profligacy as it deserves.

LY. (*Knocking at the door.*) Open this door, open quickly and call out Lesbonicus if he is at home. The case is urgent; I want to see him at once.

LESBONICVS. LYSITELES. CHARMIDES. CALLICLES

LESBONICVS

Quís homo tam tumúltuoso sónitu me exciuít foras ?

LYSITELES

Béneuolens tuos átque amicus.

LESBONICVS

Sátine saluae ? díc mihi.

LYSITELES

Récte : tuom patrem rediisse sáluom peregre gaúdeo.

LESBONICVS

Quís id ait ?

LYSITELES

Ego.

LESBONICVS

Tún uidisti ?

LYSITELES

Et túte item uideás licet.

LESBONICVS

Ó pater, patér mi, salue.

CHARMIDES

Sálue multum, gnáte mi.

LESBONICVS

Síquid tibi, patér, laboris —

CHARMIDES

Níhil euenit, né time :
Béne re gesta sáluos redeo. sí tu modo frugi ésse uis,
* * * * * *
Haéc tibi pactast Cállicletis fília.

LESBONICVS

Ego ducám, pater,
Ét eam et si quam aliám iubebis.

CHARMIDES

Quámquam tibi suscénsui
Míseria una uní quidem hominist ádfatim.

SCENE III

(*Enter* LESBONICUS *from the house.*)

LE. Who is calling for me with such a racket?

LY. A friend kindly disposed to you.

LE. Is all well with you? Assure me.

LY. Quite well. I am delighted that your father has returned from abroad in safety.

LE. Who says so?

LY. I do.

LE. Have you seen him?

LY. I have, and you may also see him.

LE. O father, my father, I am glad to see you.

CH. And I am very glad to see you, my son.

LE. If to you any trouble— —

CH. No trouble; never fear! I have prospered and return in safety. On condition that you live an upright life * * * the daughter of Callicles has been betrothed to you.

LE. I will marry her, father; her and any one else besides if you shall bid me.

CH. Although I was angry with you, one affliction is quite enough for one man.

CALLICLES

Immo huíc parumst :

Nám si pro peccátis centum dúcat uxorís, parumst.

LESBONICVS

Át iam posthac témperabo.

CHARMIDES

Dícis, si faciás modo.

LYSITELES

Númquid causaest quín uxorem crás domum ducam ?

CHARMIDES

Óptumumst.

Tu ín perendinúm paratus sís ut ducas.

CANTOR

Plaúdite.

Ca. Nay, it's too little for him. It would be too little, if, for his sins, he should have to marry a hundred wives.

Le. But from now on I will be temperate.

Ch. We have your promise; well and good if you will keep it.

Ly. Is there any reason why my wedding should not take place to-morrow?

Ch. None whatever. (*To* Lesbonicus.) And you be ready to marry on the day after.

Cantor. Give your applause.

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